$50K bail for woman accused of robbery. PAGE 2
6 teachers pass Carolinian Content Proficiency Exam. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

$1

Saipan Tribune

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Janice A. Tenorio presides over a regular board meeting yesterday shortly after the directors held a special meeting in which they discussed emergency procurement purchases and temporary power supply back-up.

UNDER EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT

Purchase of new power engines for Rota and Saipan approved

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors approved yesterday CUC management's request to cancel an emergency procurement for temporary power on Rota and instead purchase a new 2-megawatt engine under an emergency procurement.

At the same special meeting, the board also approved management's request to repair

See PURCHASE on Page 4

Tina Sablan named special assistant for newly established climate program

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Sablan

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios has appointed former representative Christina M. Sablan as special assistant for the newly-created Climate Policy and Planning Program that tasks her with helping

See SABLAN on Page 4

MVA, DLNR to solve tourist site jurisdiction issue

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority and the Department of Land and Natural Resources will soon settle the long-standing dispute about who really holds jurisdiction of the upkeep of Marpi tourist sites.

See MVA on Page 4

Man allegedly hit GF with car

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

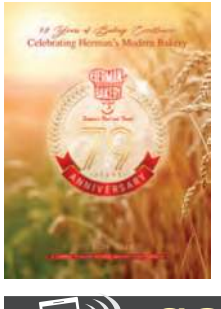
A man is being accused of hitting his girlfriend with a car in a fit of rage and the Superior Court has imposed a $10,000 cash bail for his temporary release.

See MAN on Page 4

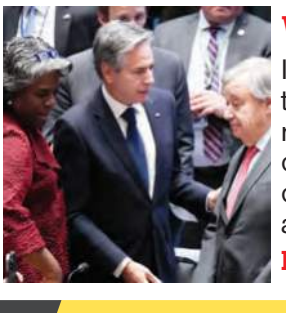
KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Saimon Topias was arrested and brought before Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan last Tuesday after hitting his girlfriend with a car just a few feet beside the Koblerville Mobil gas station.

INSIDE



SUPPLEMENT
Saipan Tribune helps Herman's Modern Bakery celebrate 79 years of meeting the islands' bread and pastry needs with this pullout supplement.
PAGE 9



WORLD
Israel vowed again to destroy Hamas, rejecting calls for a cease-fire from the U.N. chief, the Palestinians and many countries.
PAGE 30

LIFE & STYLE
Richard Roundtree, the trailblazing actor who starred as the ultra-smooth private detective in several "Shaft" films, has died.
PAGE 31

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

$50K bail set for woman accused of robbery

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has retained Juanita Villanueva's bail at $50,000 as initially imposed following a bail hearing last Friday.

Villanueva, one of three individuals allegedly involved in robbing a man at gunpoint last Oct. 15, was brought before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho last Friday for her initial appearing and bail hearing.

During the bail hearing, Camacho maintained Villanueva's bail at $50,000 before remanding her back to Department of Corrections custody. She is ordered to return to court on Oct. 30, at 10am for a preliminary hearing while her arraignment is set for Nov. 6.

As of press time, the Department of Public Safety remains on the lookout for Villanueva's co-conspirators who have yet to be identified.

According to court documents, police responded last Oct. 15 to theft report made by a man who claimed he had been robbed.

The following day, Oct. 16, detective Joey Lizama met with the victim, Melecio Molina, during which he said that Villanueva had contacted him over 10 times on Oct. 15 asking him for money. Sometime after 7pm, he said he picked Villanueva up at the parking area across Pacific Islands Club Saipan. He noted that he saw her exit a black SUV-type car before coming over to his car.

However, sometime later, the victim said Villanueva refused to follow him to his house so they, instead, drove to the northernmost part of San Antonio beach just behind FMS where they reportedly had sex.

After that, the victim told police that he noticed car lights approaching his vehicle, during which Villanueva rushed him to give her money.

As he tried to do so, Molina said the car pulled up behind his vehicle and he noticed it was a black, SUV-like car. A minute later, a woman came up to the passenger side window.

Moments later, the victim said a man was at his window, pointing a pistol to his head and demanding that he give them money.

He noted that, as he was getting money from his wallet, the man grabbed the entire wallet, which contained debit and credit cards, $310, and his identification cards.

Later, Villanueva allegedly exited his vehicle and took with her his car keys and his bag, which contained his other car keys.

DPS
Juanita Villanueva, seen here in a file photo, was brought before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho last Friday for her initial appearing and bail hearing.

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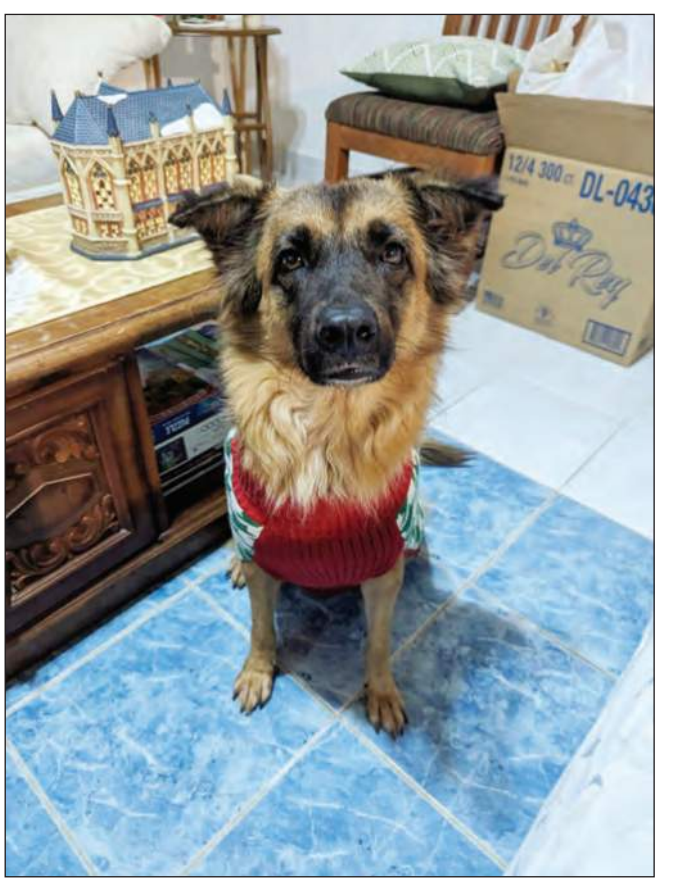

MISSING DOG CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The owners of Sophie are seeking the community's help to locate her. She was last seen around Beach Road/Chalan Laulau area (STAR Water/National Office Supply). She is very shy around strangers and doesn't usually approach people. She should be wearing a dog tag with her name and contact information. If seen or found, please contact Evelyn Yamagata at 234-7338.

IN MEMORIAM

On Friday, October 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the American Memorial Park, the 17th Saipan & N. Islands Municipal Council Chairwoman Marian DLG. Tudela, Vice Chairwoman Tonie M. Tudela, and Secretary Carmen C. Pangelinan respectfully request the presence of families,relatives, friends, and the general public of Saipan to partake in the annual **In Memoriam** blessing, remembrance and prayer for over 900 civilian children, women, men, and elderly who died in the Battle of Saipan during World War II.

Acosta, Maria Lizama
Ada, Dolores
Ada, Maria Magdalena Cabrera
Ada, David A.
Ada, David Lizama
Ada, Francisco Cepeda
Ada, Joaquin Santos
Ada, Trinidad
Ada, Rosa Terlaje
Ada, Victor C.
Agulto, Vicente Concepcion
Agulto, Vicente Concepcion
Aguon, Carmen Cabrera
Aguon, Gregorio Concepcion
Aguon, Ignacio M.
Aguon, Josefina Castro
Aguon, Ramon Borja
Akiyama , Antonio Reyes
Akiyama, Elpidia Olivia Reyes
Akiyama, Herman Candido Reyes
Akiyama, Jesus Reyes
Akiyama, Jose Esteban Reyes
Akiyama, Juan Reyes
Akiyama, Pedro Tomomitsu
Akiyama, Teresita Catalina Reyes
Aldan, Ana A.
Aldan, Antonia A.
Aldan, Bernadita Castro
Aldan, Carmen Victoria Rosario
Aldan, Felix C.
Aldan, Juan A.
Aldan, Juan de leon
Aldan, Maria
Aldan, Maria A.
Aldan, Merced
Aldan, Nicolasa Guerrero
Aldan, Regina Castro
Aldan, Soledad Castro
Aldan, Vicenta
Aldan, Vicente A.
Andon, Joanis
Arnold, Lens
Apatang, Constancia Maratita
Apatang, Nicolasa Maratita
Aquino, Felipe
Arasi, Dolores M.
Arasi, Fernando M.
Ari, Dolores Liguat
Arriola, Maria Consolacion Fausto
Arriola, Felipe Fausto
Arriola, Francisco Acosta
Arriola, Luisa Garrido
Arriola, Maria Illuminada Fausto
Arriola, Mariana Fausto
Arriola, Miguel Lizama
Atalig, Ana Hocog
Atalig, Angelina Hocog
Atalig, Antonia Taimanao
Atalig, Candida Duenas
Atalig, Joaquin Duenas
Atalig, Juan A.
Atalig, Lucia Hocog
Atalig, Manuel Barcinas
Atalig, Ramon Dela Cruz
Attao, Vicente Magofna
Ayuyu, Corbiniano Ogo
Ayuyu, David
Ayuyu, Francisca A.
Ayuyu, Francisca M.
Ayuyu, Juanita Ogo
Ayuyu, Maria S.
Ayuyu, Pedro C.
Ayuyu, Pedro Matantaotao
Ayuyu, Toriano Ogo
Ayuyu, Vicente Atalig
Ayuyu, Vicente Masga
Ayuyu, Vicente Mendiola
Babauta, Ana P.
Babauta, Benjamin Lizama
Babauta, Luis Rosario
Babauta, Lydia Pasgual
Babauta, Rosalina SN
Barcinas, Lorenza M.
Basa, Francisco Blas
Basa, Rita Sablan
Bermudes, Antonio Quitano
Bermudes, Jose C.
Bermudes, Manuel Guerrero
Bermudes, Margarita Castro
Bermudes, Rita Guerrero
Bermudes, Rosa Quitano
Billy, Sina
Blas, Basilio Matagolai
Blas, Dolores Castro
Blas, Juan Matagolai
Blas, Juana Deleon Guerrero
Blas, Nicolasa Torres
Blas, Remedio Castro
Borja, Felis Tudela
Borja, Dolores Cepeda
Borja, Francisco F.
Borja, Henry Leon Guerrero
Borja, Jose C.
Borja, Jose S.
Borja, Jose S.
Borja Josefa Cabrera
Borja, Joseph S.
Borja, Manuel Dela Cruz
Borja, Martin F.
Borja, Rita D.
Borja, Serafin Salas
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Boyer, Delgadina Maria Palacios
Boyer, Martin F.
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Cabrera, Barsilisa Manalo
Cabrera, Bernadita R.
Cabrera, Carmen
Cabrera, Celia Maria Mendiola
Cabrera, Concepcion C.
Cabrera, Crispin Torres
Cabrera, Dolores Muna Charfauros
Cabrera, Felipe Muna
Cabrera, Jesus S.
Cabrera, Joaquin M.
Cabrera, Joaquin Taisague
Cabrera, Jose Cruz
Cabrera, Juan Cruz
Cabrera, Maria Mendiola
Cabrera, Victoria Dela Cruz
Calvo, Alexandro
Calvo, Maria
Camacho, Ana Maxima San Nicolas
Camacho, Antonia Sablan
Camacho, Antonio Castro
Camacho, Antonio Lujan
Camacho, Carmen Sablan
Camacho, Francisco Salas
Camacho, Francisco San Nicolas
Camacho, Jesus L.
Camacho, Jesus Tudela
Camacho, Jesusa Sablan
Camacho, Jose Castro
Camacho, Jose Diaz
Camacho, Jose Tudela
Camacho, Juan Compus
Camacho, Juana Lujan
Camacho, Maria del Pilar Diaz
Camacho, Maxima SN.
Camacho, Rita C.
Camacho, Rita S.
Camacho, Rita Sablan
Camacho, Roman Aguon
Camacho, Rosario Lujan
Camacho, Vicente Sablan
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Castro, Ignacio
Castro, Jesus
Castro, Jesus T.
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Castro, Martha Taimanao
Castro, Martin Cabrera
Castro, Ormat
Castro, Pedro
Castro, Rita P.
Castro, Vicenta
Celis, Regino
Cepeda, Antonio Agulto
Cepeda, Efrain
Cepeda, Felis Ogo
Cepeda, Gertrudis Ogo
Cepeda, Joaquin Ogo
Cepeda, Jose
Cepeda, Jose Iglecias
Cepeda, Josefa Ogo
Cepeda, Juan S.
Cepeda, Maria Cruz
Cepeda, Mariana S.
Cepeda, Monica Ogo
Cepeda, Pedro Ogo
Cepeda, Rosa Ogo
Cepeda, Trinidad Manibusan
Cepeda, Vicente Ogo
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Charfauros Guillermo Muna
Charfauros, Jose Sablan
Charfauros, Pilar Muna
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Chargualaf, Jose Odai
Chargualaf, Maria Odai
Chargualaf, Roberto Sablan
Chong, Francisco
Chong, Luis
Cho-ki-jo, Fermina Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Gertrudis Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Joaquin Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Jose
Cho-ki-jo, Maria Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Pedro Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Vicente Cepeda
Concepcion, Antonio Sablan
Concepcion, Gertrudes Gumataotao
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Cruz, Odelio Taisakan
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Dela Cruz, Ignacio Flores
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Dela Cruz Lucia Villagomez
Dela Cruz, Manuel
Dela Cruz, Maria Fejeran
Dela Cruz, Maria Masga
Dela Cruz, Pedro Salas
Dela Cruz, Ramon
Dela Cruz, Ramon Flores
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De la Torre, Jesus Roberto
De la Torre, Jose Roberto
De la Torre, Remedio Salas Roberto
De la Torre, Vicente Torres
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Deleon Guerrero, Jesus Clemente Reyes
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Lizama, Benedicto Mendiola
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Lizama, Frederico Mendiola
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Mesngon, Loria Kisa
Mesngon, Uton Maratita
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Miham, Alfonso
Moteisou, Maria Olaitiman
Muleta, Benedicto
Muleta, Isabel M.
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Muna, Ana Quidachay
Muna, Carmen
Muna, Gregorio Concepcion
Muna, Gregorio Taitano
Muna, Inigo Atoigu
Muna, Magdalena Camacho
Muna, Maria Cabrera
Muna, Rita Duenas
Muna, Rufina Palacios
Mundo, Justo Hocog
Murakami, Ana Fejeran
Nakatsukasa, Herman Taisacan
Nakatsukasa, Lucia Taisacan
Nakatsukasa, Maria Taisacan
Namauleg, Joaquin Reyes
Namaisei, Elena
Naog, Remedio Pua
Naog, Rufina Pua
Naputi, Antonio Pinaula
Narikawa, Maria Mercedes
Nededog, Guadalupe
Nekeisei, Dolores
Nekai, Lucia
Nerigat, Maria
Nigan, Alfonso
Norita, Antonia
Norita, Maria
Ogarto, Leon Tomol
Ogo, Augusta R.
Ogo, Concepcion B.
Ogo, Juan Borja
Ogo, Maria R.
Ogo, Monica Manglona
Ogo, Ricardo Lizama
Ogo, Salvator Lizama
Ogo, Soledad Lizama
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Ogo, Vicente Magofna
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Olopai, Carmen Mareham
Omar, Rita Rogolifoi
Pablo, Ana
Pablo, Antonio Tydingco
Pablo, Jesus C.
Pablo, Jose C.
Pablo, Maria
Palacios, Antonio Sablan
Palacios, Beatrise Sablan
Palacios, Daniel Sablan
Palacios, Florenciana Rabago
Palacios, Herman Pangelinan
Palacios, Herman San Miguel
Palacios, Jose Cepeda
Palacios, Jose Cruz
Palacios, Jose Sablan
Palacios, Juan Taitano
Palacios, Magdalena Sablan
Palacios, Maria Matagolai
Palacios, Rita Sablan
Palacios, Vicente Santos
Palacios, Vicente T.
Pangelinan, Antonia Manahane
Pangelinan, Enrique Cepeda
Pangelinan, Felis Francisco Ito
Pangelinan, Francisco San Nicolas
Pangelinan, Gonzalo DLG.
Pangelinan, Joaquin I.
Pangelinan, Maria S.
Pangelinan, Pedro Ros
Pangelinan, Remedio Blas
Parong, Luisa Malus
Peter, Alfredo Kapileo
Peter, Theodorico Kapileo
Pialur, Ana Malus
Pialur, Vicente
Pilae, Carmen
Pinaula, Vicente Santos
Pua, Dolores Selepeo
Pua, Maria N.
Quidachay, Esteban
Quidachay, Estefania
Quidachay, Juan
Quidachay, Maria Borja
Quidachay, Theresa
Quidachay, Vicente
Quitano, Pilar Maria Roberto
Quitugua, Ana Diaz
Quitugua, Antonia Diaz
Quitugua, Joaquin Ogo
Quitugua, Juan Lizama
Rabago, Dolores Perez
Rabauliman, Bibiana Osomai
Rabauliman, Cecilia Fitial
Rabauliman, Cipriano Igisaiar
Rabauliman, Isidro Somomai
Rabauliman, Juan
Rabauliman, Juan Warakai
Rabauliman, Magdalena Fitial
Rabauliman, Magdalena R.
Rabauliman, Manuel Osomai
Rabauliman, Mariano Fitial
Rabauliman, Viviana Somomai
Rangamar, Joaquin Wabol
Rangamar, Vicente
Rangamar, Vicente Mangabao
Rapaito, Ana
Rapugao, Fabiana
Rasiang, Anastasia Rogolifoi
Rasiang, Dolores Rogolifoi
Rasiang, Estanislao Mareham
Rasiang, Faustina Mareham
Rasiang, Matilde
Repeki, Francisca Norita
Reyes, Alejandro Mariano Charfauros
Reyes, Antonio Ayuyu
Reyes, Antonio B.
Reyes, Antonio Blas
Reyes, Antonio Cruz
Reyes, Bernardo Santa Maria
Reyes, Carmen Sablan
Reyes, Celia Mendiola Cabrera
Reyes, Concepcion Gumataotao
Reyes, Herman Deleon Guerrero
Reyes, Herman S.
Reyes, Herman Tudela
Reyes, Illuminada A.
Reyes, Ines Tudela
Reyes, Isabella Lizama
Reyes, Juan
Reyes, Juan Sablan
Reyes, Juan Torres
Reyes, Leonarda Elpidia Charfauros
Reyes, Leonardo Charfauros
Reyes, Margarita Pia Tudela
Reyes, Maria Chafauros
Reyes Maximina Charfauros
Reyes, Milagro San Nicolas
Reyes, Nicolasa Blas Torres
Reyes, Nicolasa Blas
Reyes, Pilar Charfauros
Reyes, Ramon
Reyes, Reynaldo Ernesto Tudela
Reyes, Rosa Torres
Rios, Maria Santos
Rios, Moses
Rios, Olivia Masga
Rivera, Joaquin
Rogolifoi, Juan
Romolor, Francisco Olaitiman
Roppul, Maria Somorang
Rosario, Bienvenido Jose Taitano
Rosario, Juan Ramon Taitano
Ruak, Jesus
Ruak, Jesus Neisen
Ruak, Luciana Iguel
Sablan, Antonio Guerrero
Sablan, Antonio S.
Sablan, Beatrice Blas
Sablan, Casiano F.
Sablan, Clemente Deleon Guerrero
Sablan, Daniel Rosario
Sablan, Eugenia Mangarero
Sablan, Eulogio Atalig
Sablan, Felis Luis Mangarero
Sablan, Fernando Rufag
Sablan, Francisco (Juan) C.
Sablan, Francisco Rosario
Sablan, George Anthony
Sablan, Herman
Sablan, Jesus Blas
Sablan, Jesus Rosario
Sablan, Joaquin Naputi
Sablan, Joaquin San Nicolas
Sablan, Jose Palomo
Sablan, Jose Santos
Sablan, Juan Camacho
Sablan, Juan Reyes
Sablan, Juan Tudela
Sablan, Juana Concepcion
Sablan, Juana Delos Santos
Sablan, Justo Concepcion
Sablan, Laura Lizama
Sablan, Luis Juan Rosario
Sablan, Luisa P.
Sablan, Magdalena Lizama
Sablan, Maria Camacho
Sablan, Maria Camacho
Sablan, Maria Magdalena Camacho
Sablan, Natividad Deleon Guerrero
Sablan, Pedro Rosario
Sablan, Rita Bermudes
Sablan, Rita C.
Sablan, Rita Delos Santos
Sablan, Vicente R.
Sakisat, Maria M.
Salas, Crispin Agulto
Salas, Dolores Rabago
Salas, Guadalupe N.
Salas, Joaquin Santos
Salas, Joaquin T.
San Nicolas, Anacleta Taisacan
San Nicolas, Aurelia
San Nicolas, Concepcion A.
San Nicolas, Florian Mendiola
San Nicolas, Ignacio
San Nicolas, Joaquin Arceo
San Nicolas, Jose Arceo
San Nicolas, Jose G.
San Nicolas, Orto Mendiola
San Nicolas, Vicente A.
Santos, Begonia Arriola
Santos, Cecilia Naputi
Santos, Dolores Ada
Santos, Ignacio Soyona
Santos, Joaquin Ada
Santos, Joaquin
Salas
Santos, Joaquina Hocog
Santos, Jose
Santos, Josefa Torres
Santos, Josephine
Santos, Margarita Basa
Santos, Maria
Santos, Pedro Torres
Santos, Pedro Villagomez
Santos, Rita Quichocho
Santos, Roque Salas
Santos, Rosa
Santos, Vicente Taitano
Santos, Victor Terlaje
Saralu, Antonia Anguirap
Saralu, Elias
Saralu, Maria Litagian
Saralu, Pablo
Sarong, Felix
Sarong, Gregorio Ilisari
Sarong, Soledad Maciano
Sato, Mariano
Satur, Mariano S.
Saures, Felipe
Saures, Rosa P.
Selepeo, Basilio Roligat
Selepeo, Isidro Rangamar
Selepeo, Joaquin Pialur
Selepeo, Joaquin R.
Selepeo, Nicanora Rangamar
Selepeo, Rita Pelero
Seman, Jacoba Igibor Maguines
Seman, Ambrosio M.
Seman, Ana M.
Seman, Dolores R.
Seman, Maria Dolores Tebuteb
Seman, Ignacio Maligar
Seman, Joaquin Moteisou
Seman, Matilde Takeda
Seman, Rita Mettao
Seman, Vicente Kileleman
Seman, Vicente R.
Shai, China Dela Cruz
Shai, Taka Dela Cruz
Sip, Agueda Nabulis
ASister Genoveva Garate, M.M.B.
Smith, Charlie Jones
Sogoligarag, Rosa Angairo
Somol, Carmen Rapaito
Somorang, Concepcion Rasiang
Somorang, Francisca
Somorang, Jose Rasiang
Somorang, Venancio Rasiang
Songao, Francisco Maratita
Songao, Rita Aguon
Songao, Valentino
Songsong, Bedad Hocog
Songsong, Maria Rivera
Stein, Juan Reyes
Taga, Felisa Ayuyu
Tagabuel, Vicente
Taimanao, Bernardo Apatang
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Taimanao, Manuel Ayuyu
Taimanao, Tito Ayuyu
Taisacan, Ana
Taisacan, Jose Maratita
Taisacan, Jose Rapaito
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Taisakan, Juan R.
Taisakan, Maria Masga
Taitano, Concepcion Igitol
Taitano, Consolacion I.
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Taitano, Juan Manahane
Taitano, Mariano Quitano
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Taman, Dionisia Matagolai
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Tenorio, Francisco C.
Tenorio, Mariana Agulto
Tenorio, Joaquin Torres
Tenorio, Joaquina Pangelinan
Tenorio, Pedro Pangelinan
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Teregeyo, Manuel
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Teregeyo, Rosa Pialur
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Tilipao, Jose Lalifalo
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Tilipao, Maria Rogolifoi
Tilipao, Pedro Lalifalo
Tino, Pedro
Tomol, Felix
Tomol, Francisco Ogarto
Tomol, Leon Ogarto
Tomol, Maria Ogarto
Torres, Emerenciana Concepcion
Torres, Felis Palacios
Torres, Herman Ayuyu
Torres, Herman R.
Torres, Joaquin
Torres, Joaquin Sablan
Torres, Jose Salas
Torres, Jose Salas
Torres, Jose Villagomez
Torres, Josefa Sablan
Torres, Rosa
Torres, Vicente Iglecias
Toves, Ana Agulto
Toves, Antonio Cepeda
Toves, Antonio S.
Toves, Juan Agulto
Toves Juan Deleon Guerrero
Toves, Lucia Kondo
Toves, Thomas Kondo
Tudela, Francisca Pangelinan
Tudela, Jose Deleon Guerero
Tydingco, Ana
Tydingco, Antonio
Tydingco, Dolores Basa
Tydingco, Jose Camacho
Tydingco, Maria
Ulloa, Felix
Villagomez, Carmen Pangelinan
Villagomez, Cecilia Garrido
Villagomez, Jesus Seman
Villagomez, Joaquin P.
Villagomez, Joaquin Tenorio
Villagomez, Pedro Delos Santos
Wabol, Asuncion M.
Wabol, Augustina
Wabol, Felipe Satur
Wabol, Jesus Satur
Wabol, Josefa Taisakan
Wabol, Juliana
Wabol, Luis Maligar
Wabol, Pelagia Taisakan
Wabol, Nieves Fitial
Wabol, Roman Taisakan
Wabol, Teresa Taisakan
Wabol, Vicente M.
Wabol, Vicente Taisakan
Warakai, Basileo Ogarto
Warakai, Pedro Ogarto
Warakai, Simeon Ogarto
Warakai, Vicente Ogarto
Wesley, Jose Gumataotao
Wesley, Pedro Camacho
Wesley, Rosana Maria Lizama
Alfonso (surname unknown; from Pohnpei)
Faustino (surname unknown; from Chuuk)

DPS invites public to annual Haunted House outreach event

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety is inviting the public to its annual Haunted House event as part of its many outreach programs.

As part of the Department of Public Safety's Community Outreach Program, DPS would like to invite the community to its 2023 Haunted House Event in celebration of Halloween.

This year's event, themed "Path of Horror," will be held tomorrow, Oct. 27, at the DPS Central headquarters in Susupe from 5pm to 9pm.

This event is sponsored by the DPS Employee Association. The entry fee for the Haunted House will be $1.

In addition to the Haunted House, the Department of Corrections will be joining this event with a trunk or treat and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services will be showcasing a mini static display.

PURCHASE

From page 1

a power engine at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base on Saipan and purchase a new 6-megawatt power engine under an emergency procurement.

Purchase of a 2-megawatt engine for Rota is estimated to cost between $600,000 and $700,000, while a 6-megawatt engine for Saipan is around $6 million.

Upon the board's invitation, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios joined the directors in the special meeting's executive session.

CUC acting executive director Betty G. Terlaje, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said the board previously authorized management to do an emergency procurement for a minimum of 2 megawatts of temporary power on Rota.

Terlaje said when they did that, the result came back that to get temporary power on Rota, it takes about the same time to also buy a new engine.

"So that's why I asked the board that we cancel the emergency procurement of temporary power and instead do an emergency procurement to purchase the engine because it's about the same time," she said.

Terlaje said the procurement will take a little longer because of the bidding process that takes 30 days and then there is a need to evaluate.

She said doing an emergency procurement shortens the period.

"We don't want to wait 30 days," the acting executive director pointed out.

She said as long as they know several vendors that are willing to put into the proposal, they can solicit straight from them.

Terlaje said maybe by tomorrow they will start solicitation.

For Saipan, she said they also have an emergency because they lost 10 megawatts as Engine No. 6 in Power Plant 1 went down.

She said they asked the board for an emergency procurement to repair that engine right away and also to purchase a 6-megawatt engine under emergency procurement so it can be faster.

Terlaje said even if they repair Engine No. 6, they still need a new engine as the contract with Aggreko (power supplier) is expiring soon.

"So, we want to make sure that we have capacity after Aggreko expires," she said.

Terlaje said the board approved their request because it's an emergency.

She said the emergency is that this is a detrimental to public health and welfare because they don't have much power supply reserve.

"So that's why we need to repair right away and buy an engine because the repair might not last long," Terlaje said.

On funding, the board approved to use some reserve funding until CUC gets their reimbursement for some of the typhoon work that they did.

She said repair work for Engine No. 6 is going take about 3-4 months, while the purchase of a new engine can take anywhere from 6-18 months.

Terlaje said Palacios is very supportive as he even suggested some options on how to help the situation of the power generation for all three islands.

She said as the chief executive of the CNMI, Palacios has access to friends in Washington, D.C. and lobbied for assistance to bring the islands' power generation back to good condition so they can gear more further into renewable energy.

CUC board chair Janice A. Tenorio, in an interview, said one of the reasons why they invited Palacios was to really keep him up to date with the status of the power plants on Saipan and Rota.

She said as governor, Palacios must be made aware of what's going on with power plants as it does affect the entire community, the agencies, airports, and hospital on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

"We're just updating him. We went on to an executive session," said Tenorio, adding that they asked Palacios to join because it was a discussion that he should be aware.

She said the governor is very supportive and mentioned that CUC should be applying for grants because he was informed there's a lot of grants up there that can probably assist CUC operation in regards to funding water, wastewater, and the energy side.

Last Oct. 4, the board unanimously authorized CUC management to do an emergency procurement for a minimum of 2 megawatts of temporary power on Rota.

MAN

From page 1

Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan imposed last Tuesday a $10,000 cash bail on Saimon R. Topias, 52, who has been charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with domestic violence, and disturbing the peace- domestic violence.

After failing to post bail last Tuesday, Bogdan remanded Topias back to Department of Corrections custody where he will remain, pending further court proceedings. Topias was ordered to return to court on Nov. 1 at 10am for his preliminary hearing; his arraignment was set for Nov. 6 at 9am.

According to court documents, police officer Steven Castro responded last Sunday, Oct. 22, at around 4:47pm to a reported domestic disturbance next to Mobil Gas Station in Koblerville.

Upon arriving, Castro noted that the alleged victim was crying on a patch of grass next to a beige Corolla vehicle and a concrete power pole. Castro noted in his report that the woman appeared to be in shock and in pain.

Just a few feet away, Castro said he saw off-duty officer Lt. Elias Saralu holding Topias down on the ground. Topias was allegedly resisting arrest.

Castro learned from Saralu that he witnessed Topias hit his girlfriend with the beige Corolla, hurling her several feet into the grassy area where she had been found.

After witnessing this, Saralu said he drove to the woman, got off his car, and blocked Topias off. This allegedly prompted Topias to get out of his car and try to start a fight with the off-duty officer. Saralu added that Topias didn't back down even when he identified himself as a police officer.

During the altercation, Saralu said Topias lunged at the woman, prompting him to restrain him on the ground until officers arrived.

Saralu told officers that prior to Topias hitting his girlfriend with the car, he witnessed the two at the intersection just next to Mobil. He said he saw the woman get out of the car and was trying to get her cellphone, but Topias got off the car, yanked her hair, punched her, then took her phone and smashed it on the ground.

After this, Saralu said the woman ran south but Topias got back into the car, made a U-turn, and drove straight into the woman, hitting her.

As Topias was making another U-turn back to the woman, Saralu had already driven over and stepped in.

SABLAN

From page 1

craft policy that will move the CNMI to a low carbon-footprint economy.

Sablan's appointment does not require Senate confirmation. She officially started the job on Monday.

Palacios issued last Sept. 21 Directive 2023-008, establishing the federally funded Climate Policy and Planning Program within the Office of the Governor and the position of special assistant for Climate Policy and Planning.

As special assistant, Sablan will assist the governor and the CNMI government to perform and carry out functions and duties necessary for the Commonwealth to develop and implement plans, policies, and strategies to address climate-related threats and inequities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and move the CNMI to a clean energy, low-carbon economy.

In response to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry about the new position, Sablan, who volunteers as a senior adviser to the Palacios-Apatang administration, said yesterday that the bulk of her time and responsibilities as special assistant will be dedicated to CPP. She said she will be working to develop the CNMI's action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition the Marianas to clean energy.

Sablan said she worked with the CNMI's partners to prepare the workplan for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

She said the source of funding for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program is the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

According to the governor's directive, the $370 billion IRA includes $5 billion for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program, including funds set aside specifically for the territories, to support comprehensive plans and priority actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.

The Office of the Governor was awarded a planning grant, with the first deliverable being a Priority Climate Action Plan, or PCAP, due in April for the territories.

Sablan said the projects identified in the PCAP will then be eligible to compete for implementation funding in the second round of this program.

U.S. Congress and the Biden administration have made $4.6 billion available for implementation nationwide and $300 million will be set aside for the territories and tribes to compete for.

Sablan said EPA will be looking for projects that are innovative, transformative, replicable, and scalable. She said EPA is encouraging collaboration across agencies, sectors, and jurisdictions.

MVA

From page 1

In an interview with MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, he shared that the long ongoing dispute between them and DLNR about who is in charge of upkeep and maintenance when it comes to Marpi tourist sites.

Concepcion shared that MVA and DLNR have already received a draft of a Memorandum of Agreement from the Attorney General's Office regarding this matter.

"There is a draft that we have received from the AGO. Essentially the MOA will be between the MVA and DLNR. We're reviewing it and are in the process of tweaking it," he said.

Concepcion said DLNR secretary Sylvan Igisomar has shown his support for the MOA which essentially establishes that DLNR holds legal jurisdiction over the sites and MVA will aid in the upkeep and maintenance.

"We've shared the draft with DLNR secretary and he's in full support of having this type of cooperative arrangement where we can come in with our expertise and support and because they have legal jurisdiction over the site, we're going to have to go through them.That is ongoing, nothing has been signed yet, it's still under review," he said.

For this fiscal year, MVA has already allocated a portion of its over $4-million budget to helping DLNR in maintaining tourist sites in Marpi.

"Some of our budget includes support to government agencies who will be maintaining the sites now. We have historically, and will continue, to provide funding for fuel and supplies for Parks and Recreation who maintain the sites in Marpi," he said," he said.

In related news, Concepcion recently shared that the Economic Development Administration has awarded MVA $1.4 million to renovate and enhance the CNMI's most popular tourist sites.

"We [got] a $1.4-million grant from the Economic Development Administration, which we are going to use to fund the renovation of Bird Island—a complete renovation [that] includes brand new railings, brand new stairs, a lookout deck, and paved organized parking," he said. "We're [also] going to re-design and re-develop Suicide Cliff and we're going to build a brand-new restroom at the Last Command Post. Although there is a restroom there now, it is not in service, and it has been vandalized and destroyed after someone broke in there and smashed the toilets." He added.

Concepcion said the grant will predominately be used to build a new and larger restroom at the Last Command Post that will serve as the main restroom in Marpi.

Concepcion explained that it would cost more to maintain the existing restrooms in Marpi as they have been vandalized several times.

In addition, Concepcion said that MVA is working with the Office of Grants Management on their project to renovate Banzai Cliff.

6 teachers pass Carolinian Content Proficiency Exam

Six teachers passed the Carolinian Content Proficiency Exam administered by the CNMI Public School System-Chamorro & Carolinian Language & Heritage Studies.

Koblerville Elementary School K-5th grade teacher Camilla L. Pua, Hopwood Middle School 6th-7th grade teacher Manuel Ogarto, Kagman Elementary School's K-2nd grade teacher Iunisi P. Pome'e and 3rd-5th grade teacher Fidelia Mafnas, and Oleai Elementary School 4th-5th grade teacher Carmina H. Pua and 2nd-3rd grade teacher Tina I. Kaipat received their certifications last Oct. 22 from Elameto Translation Education Services' Jesus Elameto during the Carolinian Affairs Office's "Sunset Concert" hosted by Ghattchúúr Refaluwasch/ Improvement of Refaluwasch and RMSI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Elameto Translation Education Services' Ace Elameto, Diego Kaipat, Jesus Elameto, and Antonio Angui.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Kobleville Elementary School's Camilla L. Pua, Kagman Elementary School's Iunisi P. Pome'e, Hopwood Middle School's Manuel Ogarto, Oleai Elementary School's Carmina H. Pua and Tina I. Kaipat. Kagman Elementary School's Fidelia Mafnas is not in photo.

The Carolinian Content Proficiency certification workshop encompassed six sessions that started in August 2023.

The Carolinian Content Proficiency Exam is one of the requirements that PSS requires of anyone, mainly educators teaching or interested in teaching the Carolinian language and heritage content.

These six individuals who passed the Carolinian Content Proficiency Exam ranged from service providers in the Carolinian program to newly hired and veteran teachers who have taught for over 10 years in the PSS. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

NMC-CDI elevates gov't communications skills for PAO

NMC

Employees of the CNMI Public Assistance Office recently completed a four-session government communications training conducted by the Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute.

Coordinated by Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute, the CNMI Public Assistance Office recently completed the GovComms: Effective Communication for Government Employees Training Initiative, a four-session government communication program designed to improve communication skills, teamwork, and productivity in the workplace.

The GovComms initiative focuses on the topic of effective communication in the workplace, with the goal of enhancing teamwork, productivity, and overall job satisfaction for employees. The CDI provided the program's content, materials, and instructors for the training.

Participants were able to expand on the skills and strategies necessary to effectively communicate in internal and external professional environments.

Skills included but were not limited to writing concise emails, memos, and reports, conducting effective meetings and presentations, effectively communicating with clients and colleagues, workplace communication ethics and etiquette, and the importance of nonverbal communication, active listening, and conflict resolutions.

"The Community Development Institute is committed to empowering professionals through our innovative training," shared CDI director Monique Sablan. "Programs such as GovComms are tailored to enhance communication skills, making employees more effective in their roles. Our mission is to help enhance productivity, equipping our clients and their staff with customized training that ensures that they can excel in their essential work."

"I would say the Gov Com class was a great opportunity," shared participant PAO Project Specialist Francisco Deleon Guerrero. "I encourage all to take the course. It's a very informative training that will enhance your etiquette and speech performance."

Additionally, participants received a certificate of participation, and are able to apply their contact hours toward NMC's CE250 (Cooperative Education 250) course.

For more information about CDI and its programs, please contact cdi@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

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MOBILE CLINIC SCHEDULE
OCT 27
Adult Health Check
Update on personal medical history, blood pressure check, glucose check, resources & referrals
Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe from 8:00AM - 11:30AM
OCT 4 12
Child Health Check
For children 0-17 years old. Measurements and growth, anticipatory guidance, resources & referrals
Nutrition Assistance Program , As Lito from 1:00PM- 4:30PM
Dan Dan Children's Park from 1:00PM - 4:30PM
OCT 6 14 25
Women's Health Check
For women who haven't seen a healthcare provider longer than 1 year. pap smears, breast exams, pre/post partum care, resources & referrals
Guma Hustisia, Susupe from 8:00AM - 11:30AM
(Day of Unity) Capitol Hill Softball Field from 11:00AM - 02:30PM
EVENT POSTPONED
San Roque Parish from 8:00AM - 11:30AM
OCTOBER
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
WHAT TO BRING:
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(670) 287-9926/9927/9929 www.chcc.health @cnmichcc

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Biden defends democracy while House Republicans have a political food fight

Americans last week were presented with a real-time demonstration of the stark contrast between responsible national leadership and crashing political dysfunction.

The latter, of course, came courtesy of the House Republican majority, whose continuing paralysis in its quest to choose a leader now endangers not only America's economy but its crucial support for two war-ravaged allies—and thus threatens U.S. national security itself.

On the other side of that ledger is President Joe Biden, whose Thursday night speech cogently outlining the urgent stakes in Israel and Ukraine doubled as an eloquent defense of America's core values in a political era that has battered and strained them.

Eloquence isn't a word often associated with Biden (even in his younger years), but his Oval Office speech was a welcomed exception.

"American leadership is what holds the world together," said Biden, couching U.S. support for Israel against Hamas' terrorism and for Ukraine against Russia's invasion as two parts of the same test of America's commitment to democratic allies. "Our alliances are what keep us safe, and our values are what make us a partner that other nations want to work with."

Biden's speech deftly navigated the divide in America over the situation in Israel, which was attacked by Hamas on Oct. 7 and has since embarked on a full-scale assault to root the terrorist organization out of Gaza.

Some fringe-left Democrats (including U.S. Rep. Cori Bush of St. Louis) have used the conflict to argue for U.S. abandonment of Israel for its treatment of stateless Palestinians. That historic conflict has long needed addressing, but not as Israel fights for its existence against an enemy that intentionally kills civilians and takes hostages, including Americans.

Biden's speech made clear that Bush and the rest are nowhere near the mainstream of his party, which is solidly behind Israel. But he also took pains to reject the wave of Islamophobia that the current conflict has spurred in the U.S.

Citing the recent stabbing death of a 6-year-old Palestinian-American boy in the Chicago area, allegedly because he was Muslim, Biden said: "We must without equivocation denounce antisemitism. We must also without equivocation denounce Islamophobia. And to all you hurting, I want you to know I see you. You belong. And I want to say this to you: You're all American."

It wasn't so long ago that the themes Biden hit in his speech—national unity, religious and ethnic tolerance, support for democracy throughout the globe—would have had such unquestioned bipartisan support as to sound routine.

But to a GOP still in thrall to a reckless former president and his autocracy-minded movement, it apparently looked like a thrown gauntlet.

"I think what the president did is completely disgraceful,"

See BIDEN on Page 7

Biden says the US must help Israel and Ukraine succeed—he's staking his reputation on it

Joe Biden didn't set out to be a wartime president, but he made himself one.

Last week, the president staked his place in history on the outcomes of two conflicts: Israel's war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip and Ukraine's war against an invading Russia.

When Biden came to the White House in 2021, his foreign policy goals were more modest. He wanted to rebuild alliances that had frayed under his predecessor, Donald Trump. He wanted to refocus on great-power competition with China. And he wanted to withdraw the last U.S. troops from Afghanistan—a mission he accomplished in chaos.

Two events have changed the landscape.

Last year, Russian President Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine, seeking to turn an independent country into a colony. Last week, Israel prepared to launch a ground offensive in the Gaza Strip to destroy the Hamas regime that attacked Israeli towns and villages.

On Thursday, Biden yoked the two crises together and declared a new primary goal for American foreign policy: "Making sure Israel and Ukraine succeed."

"We're facing an inflection point in history—one of those moments where the decisions we make today are going to determine the future for decades to come," he said.

"We cannot and will not let terrorists like Hamas and tyrants like Putin win," he said, adding, "I refuse to let that happen."

Consciously or not, he was echoing President George H.W. Bush's response to Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait: "This will not stand."

In a narrow sense, Biden's speech was merely a legislative gambit. On Friday, he sent Congress a request for $105 billion in emergency funding—mostly for Ukraine, but with substantial sums for Israel, Palestinian humanitarian aid, U.S. border security and Taiwan.

His hope is that Congress, including Republicans skeptical about supporting Ukraine, will find it easier to pass a bill that includes something for everyone.

But the president's message was much broader than the wrangle over funding, and his real target was the American public.

He clearly wanted to push back against increasing sentiment among voters, especially Republicans, that the United States should reduce its commitments overseas.

In several polls over the last year, a gradually growing share of voters has said the United States should take a less active role in the world. In a September survey conducted by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, a majority of Republican voters—53%—said they believed the United States should "stay out of world affairs," the first such finding in the poll's 49-year history.

Biden has reframed his rationale for helping Ukraine and Israel. Last year, after Russia's invasion, he described the stakes as a "battle between democracy and autocracy"—a formula that may have been too abstract for some voters.

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

Last week, he focused his pitch closer to home.

"Making sure Israel and Ukraine succeed is vital for America's national security," he argued. "It's a smart investment that's going to pay dividends for American security for generations [and] help us keep American troops out of harm's way."

Biden had another broad point to make.

"American leadership is what holds the world together," he said. "American alliances are what keep us—America—safe."

He quoted the late Madeleine Albright, who as the irrepressibly activist secretary of State under President Bill Clinton called the United States "the indispensable nation."

And he reached back to 1940, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed the United States to be "the arsenal of democracy" in the early days of World War II.

In effect, Biden is trying to build a new version of the Cold War thinking that dominated U.S. foreign policy for much of the second half of the 20th century, when he began his political career: the principle that assertive U.S. leadership is essential to world peace.

The two conflicts he is tackling won't be easy to manage.

Israel can presumably prevail in a ground invasion of the Gaza Strip, but it will then face more difficult challenges: pacifying and administering the battle zone, and reviving the neglected search for peace with the Palestinians. Biden gave Israel's leaders advice on those counts both publicly and privately last week; to help Israel succeed over the long run, he will need to give much more.

Ukraine's 20-month war has been costly in blood and treasure (the United States has already provided more than $75 billion, European countries even more), and Putin appears dug in, waiting to see whether his longtime admirer, Trump, will return to the White House in 2025.

Presidents are often measured by how they lead in times of crisis. Last week, Biden put his place in history on the line.

He set an ambitious goal—making sure both Israel and Ukraine "succeed"—and made it the yardstick of his leadership.

Voters are more likely to judge him by the state of the economy. But historians will evaluate him by the measure he set for himself.

The fate of the Palestinian people will affect Israel's future security

By ELIZABTH SHACKELFORD
Chicago Tribune

Elizabeth Shackelford is a senior fellow on U.S. foreign policy with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She was previously a U.S. diplomat and is the author of The Dissent Channel: American Diplomacy in a Dishonest Age.

Hamas' attacks on innocent civilians in Israel on Oct. 7 were heinous, cruel and unforgivable. No understanding or empathy is owed to its militants.

But the Palestinian people, half of whom weren't alive when Hamas seized power, and certainly Israel's population deserve a better, more secure and more peaceful future after decades of conflict and war.

There is no quick fix to Israel's security, but there are paths that make it more or less likely that this cycle of violence will continue. The path Israel's government has taken recently, which has continued to eat away at Palestinian rights and territory, would never have secured peace for either side. A different approach now could.

Even the American public, which strongly supports Israel, understands that the status quo was untenable. In a Chicago Council on Global Affairs poll conducted in September prior to the attacks, two-thirds of Americans valued the U.S.-Israeli security relationship, but majorities of people from all political backgrounds found the status quo unacceptable and preferred either a two-state or one-state solution.

Even if those numbers have changed today, the Palestinian question still demands a political answer. A military solution alone will, at best, postpone the next outbreak of violence. Factoring that into Israel's response now provides the best hope for a better future.

It's no easy ask under the circumstances. The Israeli government is now charged with a nearly impossible mission: Restore a sense of peace and security to its citizens in the near term while executing a plan to prevent these horrors from happening again.

The American experience, and missteps, after the Sept. 11 attacks are instructive. The U.S. government overreacted with two wars and unachievable aims. In the process, U.S. actions violated our own laws and values, undermined our moral authority, and cost us trillions of dollars and many lives. We initially had the sympathy and support of the world, but we squandered it, while laying the seeds for two decades of violence.

As one of Israel's closest partners and friends, the U.S. government should help it avoid a similar outcome by asking the tough questions and helping Israel navigate them.

Two questions are critical: Who is the enemy, and what is the endgame?

That the enemy is Hamas might seem obvious. But Israel's blockade of Gaza cut access to desperately needed humanitarian assistance, food, electricity and other essential goods, and a barrage of missiles into densely populated urban areas has killed thousands of civilians, including more than 700 children so far. From inside Gaza and elsewhere, it looks a lot like collective punishment of Gaza's entire population.

Israel has every right and responsibility to respond ferociously to Hamas, but such collective punishment is unacceptable and unwise. First, it is wrong and a war crime under the Geneva Conventions. Civilians should not have to pay for atrocities committed by Hamas.

It also harms Israel's own interests. Hamas wants Israel to pursue maximalist goals inside Gaza that bog it down in war and cause abundant civilian casualties, as that would turn public opinion against Israel across the Middle East, end normalization efforts with Saudi Arabia and the region, and likely create more future terrorists than it crushes. This is why Hamas continues to use civilians as human shields.

It could also lead to a wider war, with outrage and momentum drawing in Hezbollah, Iran and even the United States. This is in no one's interest.

Israel's stated military goal is to destroy Hamas, but it should make clear publicly that it is aware of the risk to civilians, working hard to avoid it where possible and making every effort to let civilians get out of harm's way.

Israel should also work with the United Nations and aid agencies to ensure that they are able to manage the inevitable humanitarian fallout, and it must communicate to the people of Gaza that they will not be permanently displaced yet again.

President Joe Biden's administration is urging Israel in this direction now to mitigate the harm Israel's response causes, not only to civilians but also to Israel's future. Take the horrific hospital bombing. Israel denies doing it, and no evidence suggests otherwise, but the diplomatic fallout has been swift and crippling anyway, heightening the risk of expanding the war. This is good reason for Israel to do its best to avoid those kinds of outcomes and message its intention to do so.

Outlining a durable endgame is harder, but Israel must be thinking of that now if it wants a more peaceful future.

Hamas must be ousted, but what then? Who will govern Gaza next door to Israel in a way that would allow both to live in peace? Israel likely cannot, nor would it want the burden. Israel, its partners, countries in the region, nonviolent Palestinian actors, and regional and international organizations should be discussing today what such a transition could look like.

It's hard to imagine now and will likely take years, but seeking a future where both Israelis and Palestinians can live in peace is the only way that either can.

Misinformation about the Israeli-Hamas war is rampant. Here's how to fight it

Bu JIM WARREN
Chicago Tribune

Jim Warren, a former managing editor of the Chicago Tribune, *is executive editor of* NewsGuard.

The fog of the Israeli-Hamas war is made more intimidating by the thick mist of misinformation.

What are smart news consumers, and impressionable students in classrooms nationwide, supposed to do as rampant falsehoods spread as we begin to observe U.S. Media Literacy Week?

NewsGuard, the anti-misinformation company I work for, is toiling 24/7 with a tsunami of wrongheaded claims about the conflict. The fog and mist sweep globally by social media, notably "verified" accounts on X, formerly known as Twitter, as we find in these false or unsubstantiated print and video claims:

- Ukraine sold weapons to Hamas.
- Israel has killed 33,000 Palestinian children since 2008.
- A video shows Israeli or Palestinian children in cages.
- A video shows Israeli senior officials captured by Hamas.
- The St. Porphyrios Orthodox Church in Gaza was destroyed by Israeli bombing
- A video shows Hamas fighters celebrating the abduction of an Israeli toddler.
- CNN staged footage of its news crew under attack in Israel.
- A White House memo shows that the U.S. approved $8 billion in aid for Israel.
- Israel staged footage showing the death of a child killed by a Hamas strike.
- The Hamas attack was a "false flag" carried out by Israel or the West.

Collectively, posts advancing these myths received at least 1.35 million engagements and were cumulatively viewed more than 100 million times globally in just one week, according to my colleagues Jack Brewster, Sam Howard and Becca Schimmel.

They underscore how, when he is derided for growing misinformation on X, owner Elon Musk heralds a crowdsourced fact-checking feature called Community Notes. But my colleagues found that only 79 of 250 posts, or a meager 32%, advancing misinformation about the war were flagged with a Community Note.

Add the copious amount of false or unsubstantiated information about the war on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Telegram and elsewhere, and you have a dismaying mountain of the misleading.

Now, most of us can't be as lucky as a White House reporter traveling on Air Force One with President Joe Biden as he returned from Israel on Thursday. The reporter stood a few feet from Biden, held up her phone and informed him of an Israeli news site alert: "Biden officials have indicated to Israel in recent days that if Hezbollah initiates a war against Israel, the U.S. military will join the IDF in fighting the terrorist group."

"Not true. It was never said," Biden immediately responded.

Well, if you aren't standing next to the president of the United States, or another reputable source, then who might forcefully debunk the false content you are consuming? Maybe you're a high school sophomore fiddling with an iPhone in a school cafeteria, and you're being bombarded with alerts about a K-pop star, an injured NFL quarterback or, yes, a deadly war.

Anthony Powers, the librarian at DePaul College Prep on Chicago's North Side, told us: "In a school setting, I believe that the most effective way to combat the tidal wave of mis/disinformation on any controversial topic is for the educators at the institution to curate their own lists of trusted sources on a topic."

Teachers, librarians and administrators "have to take advantage of the bully pulpit that they have to present to their students a preferred list of resources for better understanding of an issue or topic. I believe, not naively I hope, that the majority of students will opt to follow a teacher's guidance on a topic when given an option between that and searching on their own for information," Powers added.

That means being proactive in disseminating credible information about events such as the war, and media literacy in general. Most schools do not, and a 2022 law that made Illinois the first state to require a unit of media literacy education as a prerequisite for high school graduation languishes with no implementation.

So, with Media Literacy Week beginning, Powers does what he can and valiantly assists faculty and staff members with credible resources to share with students.

And now we have a war to buttress his convictions about the need of truth.

BIDEN

From page 6

Sen. J.D. Vance, R-Ohio, told Fox News after the speech. He said if Biden "wants to sell the American people" on more military aid to Ukraine, "he shouldn't use dead Israeli children to do it. It was disgusting."

Vance's disgusting assessment spotlights his party's disgraceful trend toward trying to abandon Ukraine to its Russian attackers—a trend with apparent roots in Donald Trump's chilling affinity for autocrats generally and Russia's Vladimir Putin specifically.

Biden's move to tie together billions of dollars in military aid to both Israel and Ukraine is both strategically smart in the face of an obstinate opposition party, and philosophically consistent in defending two democracies against brutal, anti-democratic attacks.

But that proposed aid package—including aid for Israel that most Republicans support—is mired in the House GOP meltdown.

Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio on Friday lost his third consecutive vote for House speaker and apparently won't get a fourth shot. No one else appeared positioned to win the office as of late Friday afternoon. The House cannot conduct any business until it fills the position.

That intraparty political food fight is bad for America, especially if it causes a government shutdown when the current stopgap spending agreement expires in mid-November. But a Jordan speakership would have been leagues worse. The MAGA-affiliated Jordan, who to this day refuses to definitively reject Trump's toxic claim that he won the 2020 election, represents the most extreme, nihilistic wing of his party, one dedicated to populist performance politics and stubbornly opposed to any bipartisanship at all.

Whatever happens going forward, the current GOP will still be a party whose only remaining principle was recently summed up by words of Republican Rep. Ann Wagner of suburban St. Louis, explaining why she ditched her own stated principles to support Jordan just days after deeming him too "disgraceful" to be speaker: "I am not, and will not, work with Democrats."

That's not leadership. This is:

"[It's] in moments like these, when fear and suspicion, anger and rage run hard, that we have to work harder than ever to hold on to the values that make us who we are," Biden said in Thursday's speech.

"We're a nation of religious freedom, freedom of expression. We all have a right to debate and disagree, without fear of being targeted in schools or workplaces or in our communities.

"We must renounce violence and vitriol, see each other not as enemies, but as fellow Americans."

Those are words the nation needed to hear right now, over the din of a radicalized Republican Party that no longer reflects even the long-held convictions of America's conservative movement—let alone America itself.

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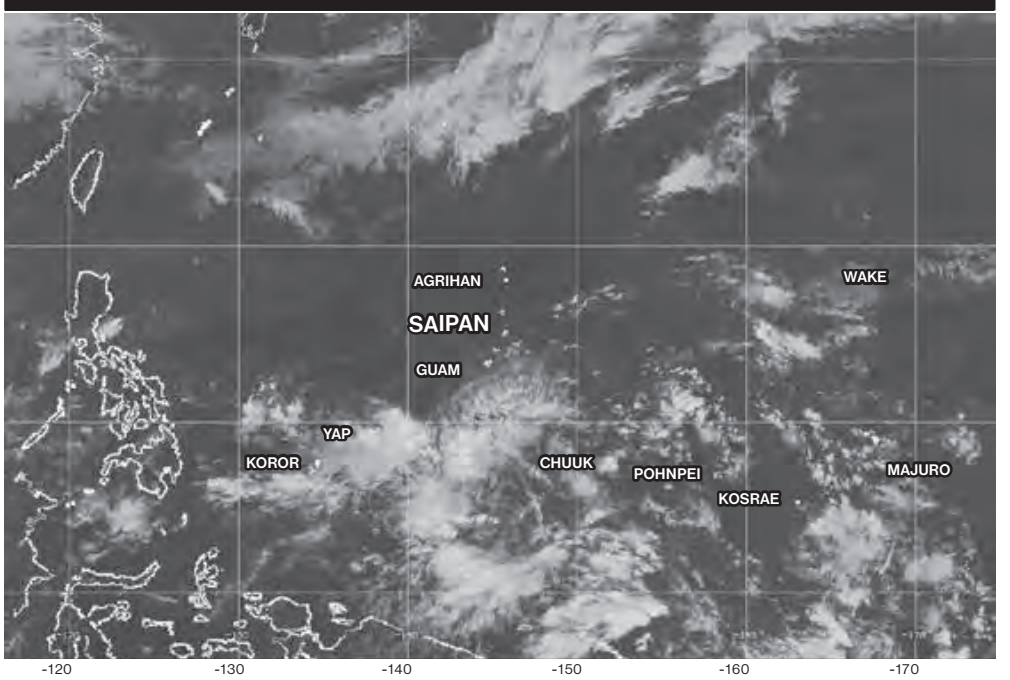
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds becoming east 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds becoming east 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
88 / 78°	88 / 78°	88 / 78°	88 / 78°	88 / 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the CNMI with isolated showers in the Guam area. The buoys reveal a 4 to 6 foot east-northeast swell. Wind waves are low enough now that the swell dominates the combined seas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA	▲	▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	87° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:49 PM
Monday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:21 AM	3:58 PM
Friday	-	4:18 AM	4:39 PM
Saturday	-	5:15 AM	5:21 PM
Sunday	-	6:14 AM	6:05 PM
Monday	-	7:13 AM	6:52 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲	▼ °F
Auckland	Windy	61° / 55°
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 48°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°
Honolulu	Showers	86° / 73°
London	Showers	54° / 46°
Los Angeles	Sunny	78° / 49°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Windy	90° / 64°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
New York	Showers	71° / 57°
Osaka	Sunny	72° / 54°
Paris	Showers	55° / 48°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	72° / 57°
Rome	Showers	72° / 54°
Salem	Thunderstorms	79° / 41°
San Francisco	Sunny	68° / 46°
Seoul	Sunny	63° / 41°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	72° / 55°
Washington, DC	Showers	75° / 49°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
5:00 AM	High Tide	1.66
11:26 AM	Low Tide	0.15
5:55 PM	High Tide	1.97
-	-	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2023

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:20PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:20AM	6:30AM	1, 4, 5, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:50AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:05PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:35PM	2:20AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

79 Years of Baking Excellence:

Celebrating Herman's Modern Bakery

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY®

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The Taste of Tradition that is Herman's Modern Bakery

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

If there is one place on island that generations of residents have known to serve their favorite baked goods, from pies to cookies to specialty cakes, there is no doubt it's Herman's Modern Bakery, which celebrates a truly venerable milestone this year—it's 79th anniversary!

Herman's baked products are the taste of home to thousands of residents both near and as far as other countries where there is a local Chamorro household. A visit to its main branch at the Tun Herman Pan Road is both a sensory delight and a nostalgic trip to a time shared with family and friends over good, comfort food and meals.

> **"Herman's baked products are the taste of home to thousands of residents both near and as far."**

It is the smell of Herman's freshly baked pies, the distinct taste of their popular line of cookies to the glorious sight of their well-decorated cakes—the centerpiece of many special occasions—that has earned and captured the loyalty of its patrons who cross the generational divide.

The list of Herman's crowd favorites includes the traditional Chamorro cookies rosku and rosketti, the Chamorro cookies which Herman's is known to have popularized, and their coconut macaroons, the sweetness of which is just enough to satisfy one's sweet craving.

There is also Herman's lineup of cakes, with the sponge cake and Chamorro cake being two of the bestsellers, while among the crowd-pleasers in their bread selection are the *pandesal*, the Filipino version of a dinner roll, and the blueberry cream cheese log, which is a personal favorite for many looking to bring a slice of the islands to relatives overseas. But topping the list is the bakery's iconic sweet bread, an invention of family patriarch Herman R. Guerrero, for which the bakery and the company is named after.

The sweet bread is a palm-

See TASTE on Page 11

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The current staff of Herman's Modern Bakery continues the tradition of providing the CNMI its daily supply of freshly baked goods, pastries, and home-cooked meals.

TASTE

From page 10

sized football shaped bun whose soft and pillowy texture is a match to any hot or cold beverage. Eat it as it is or with peanut butter, marmalade, or any type of sandwich spread, Herman's sweet bread is a delight. The sweet bread's recipe is as old as the bakery itself, with the Guerrero family receiving an approved patent for its recipe. The sweet bread has become the trademark that Herman's Modern Bakery is famous for.

Some of the bakery's initial offerings were the loaf bread, sweet bread, and pastries like the Chamorro and sponge cakes. They were some of the products which the elders in the community remember buying from Herman's.

As the bakery's product line expanded, the Guerreros relied on research and development to improve existing products while developing new baked goods that their patrons would love.

"…Nothing much has changed in the process of making the sweet bread. We still follow the same process of mixing and baking that my grandfather used in making the bread. But we now use more modern baking equipment to efficiently produce

See TASTE on Page 12

"The bakery's iconic sweet bread is an invention of family patriarch Herman R. Guerrero, for which the bakery and the company is named after."

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
Saipan's First and Finest
79 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
Dear Loyal Customers,
It has been a pleasure taking care of your business for the last 79 years. The growth we've experienced over the years is because of customers like you, who faithfully support our business.
We appreciate your trust, and we'll do our best to continue to give you the kind of service you deserve.
Thanks again, for your business.
Sincerely,
HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
Saipan's First and Finest
Herman's Modern Bakery Inc. | 5040 Chalan Tun Herman Pan, Saipan, MP 96950

TASTE

From page 11

the volume of baked items that come out of our bakery daily," said Herman's Modern Bakery general manager Michael Robert Guerrero, whom is a direct descendant of the bakery's founder.

One thing that the young Guerrero guarantees is that every Herman's product is a labor of love. "Our employees' heart goes into making all our products and they take pride in what they make," he said.

> **The sweet bread's recipe is as old as the bakery itself, with the Guerrero family receiving an approved patent for its recipe...and has become the trademark that Herman's Modern Bakery is famous for.**

The company also makes sure that employees are trained regularly to follow standard operating procedures to guarantee the quality of Herman's baked goods.

"With the help of a team of over 100 employees, the bakery produces close to 5,000 individual products daily. These are then sold at our Herman's main location at the Chalan Tun Herman Pan Road, the bakery's Garapan branch, and at over 80 grocery stores and gas stations on Saipan," he added.

The 37-year-old third-generation baker, who has embraced his role in the family business while still in his youth, embodies the hard work and determination that his grandfather practiced in securing the bakery's future.

The young Guerrero prepared himself for the role by focusing on culinary arts in college after initially trying his hands on civil engineering and business courses before finally finding his true calling.

See TASTE on Page 14

It's 79 years of incredible taste and quality at Herman's Modern Bakery.
Congratulations!
HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
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79
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
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The dedicated staff of Herman's Modern Bakery circa 1988.

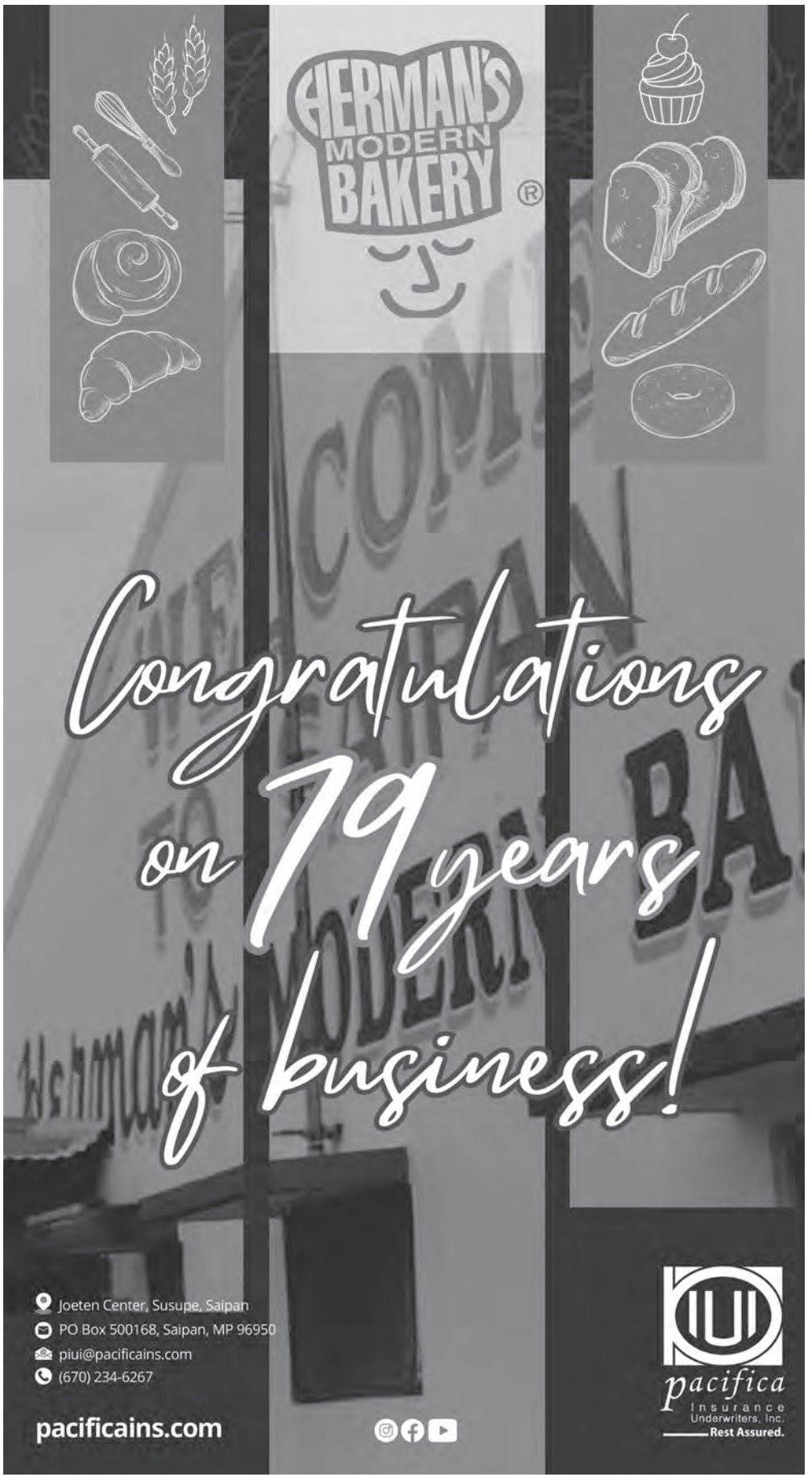
"The company makes sure that employees are trained regularly to follow standard operating procedures to guarantee the quality of Herman's baked goods."

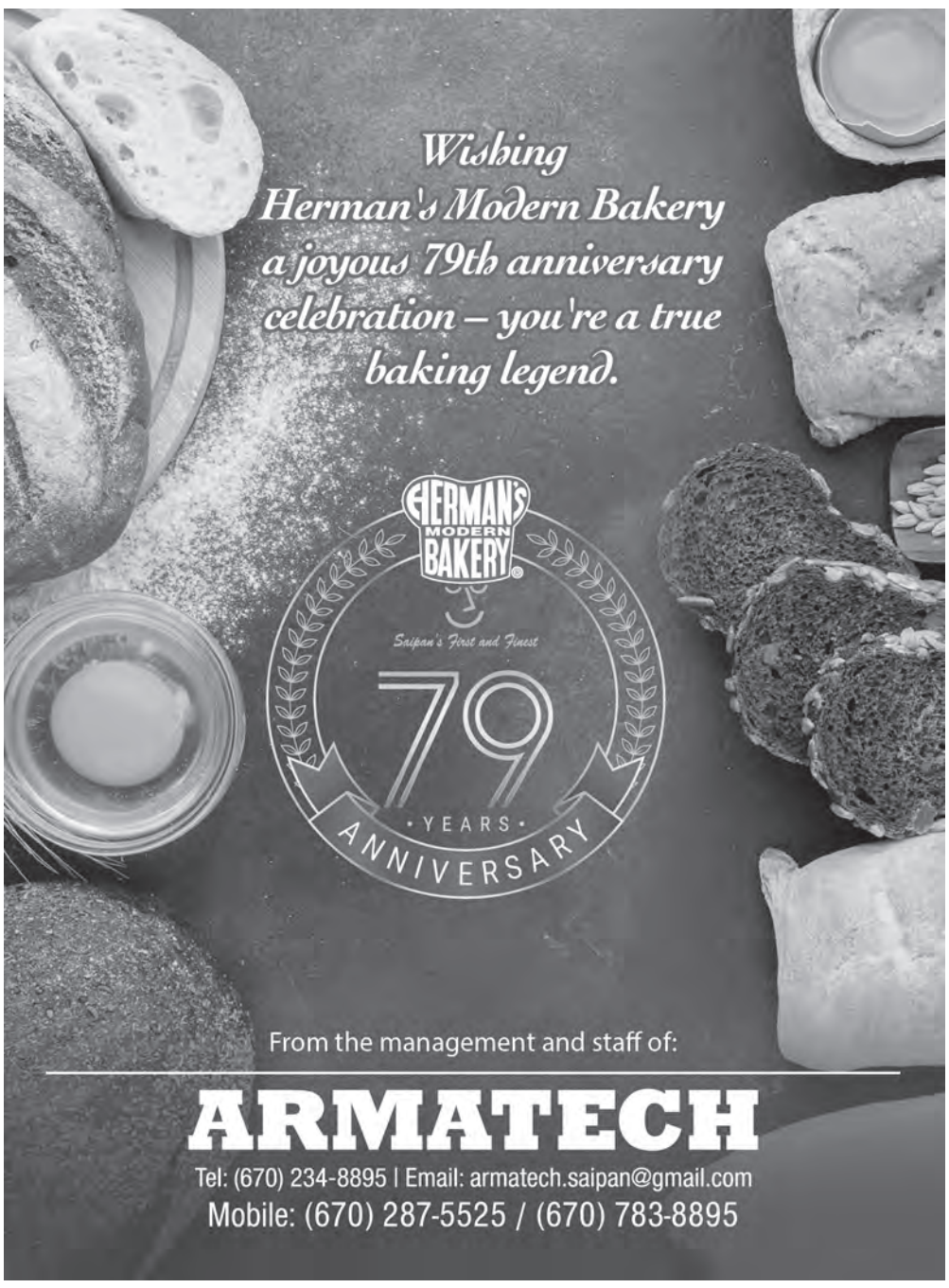
TASTE

From page 12

He is known as a hard worker. As general manager, Guerrero continues to maintain the same discipline and hands-on approach to the bakery's daily operation, a management style he learned while under the wing

See TASTE on Page 15





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Herman R. and Maria T. Guerrero (second and third from left) pose with four of their children— Juan, Herman Jr., Florencio "Boby" Tenorio, and Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero. Three of them served as members of the CNMI House of Representatives.

TASTE

From page 14

of his aunt, Annie Hayes, who was Herman's Bakery's general manager for eight years until her retirement in 2022.

Guerrero believes in maintaining the same formula and processes in bread making that his grandfather and their elder bakers have kept until now. However, he also embraces innovation and the use of modern machinery, not to tweak any of their

> **Another big priority for the bakery is to maintain their facilities' health and safety standards.**

See TASTE on Page 16

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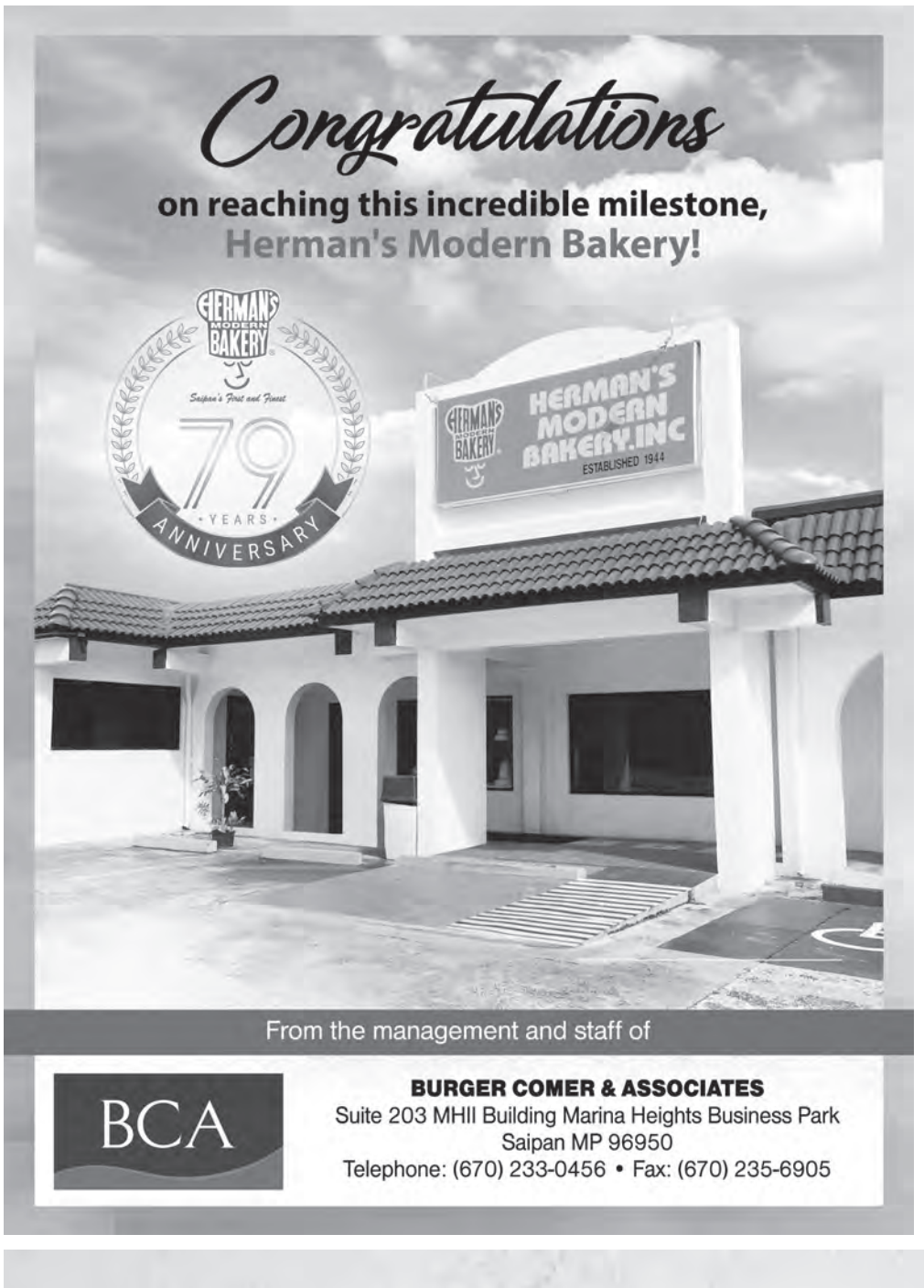


Some of Herman's Modern Bakery's staff in 2023.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TASTE

From page 15

recipes but in the mass distribution of Herman's products, both on island and overseas.

Another big priority for the bakery is to maintain their facilities' health and safety standards since Herman's also provides meals for both the elderly who go to the island's senior citizen centers, as well as school children whose school lunches are supplied by Herman's Bakery through the Public School System Food Service. Herman's Modern Bakery is also the only military-certified baking facility in the CNMI.

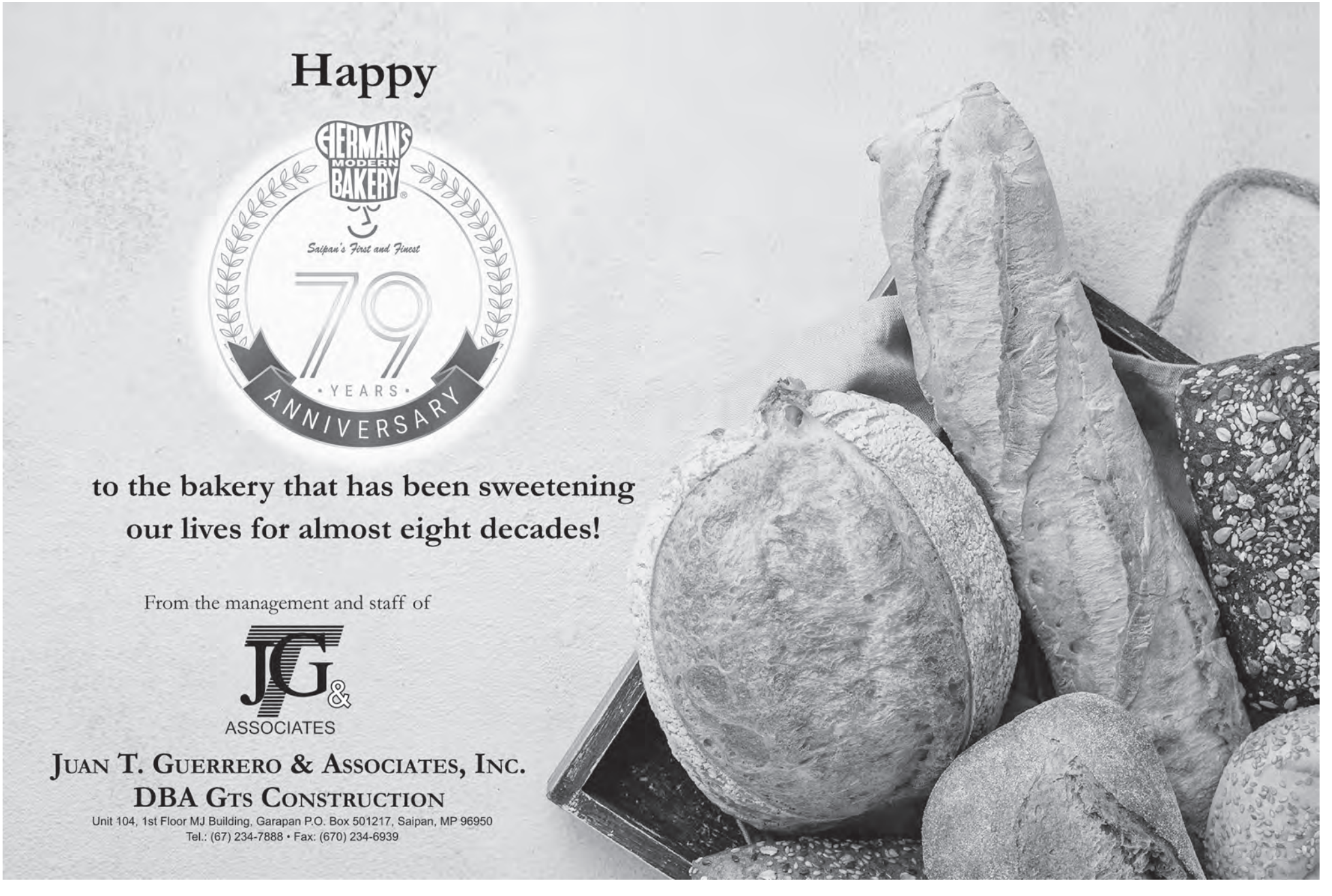
Despite their successes, the Guerreros are not one to rest on their laurels. Michael Guerrero said that part of Herman's immediate plans is the possibility of opening a store on Tinian and Guam, as well as launching an online ordering service to allow the shipment of Herman's baked goodies off-island. The latter will be a much welcome development for Herman's Bakery fanatics living overseas.

"Every Herman's product is a labor of love. Our employees' heart goes into making all our products and they take pride in what they make."

Michael Guerrero shares the secret behind the success of Herman's Modern Bakery and its products, which is that there is actually no secret.

"There is no secret to the

See TASTE on Page 17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Saipan's First and Finest
79
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
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our lives for almost eight decades!
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TASTE

From page 16

success of our business and the recipes behind our products. What we guarantee is the use of quality ingredients under the hands of highly skilled people who ensure our products are fresh and delicious," he added.

"There is no secret to the success of our business and the recipes behind our products. What we guarantee is the use of quality ingredients under the hands of highly skilled people who ensure our products are fresh and delicious."

The Guerreros also give generous credit to the help they received throughout the years from their dedicated bakers who have remained for decades Herman's Modern Bakery's loyal employees.

While they are too many to mention, Juan T. Guerrero names the following men and women as some of Herman's Modern Bakery's former team of accomplished breadmakers: Maximo Concepcion (deceased); Leon Concepcion (deceased); Juan "Ta Iku" R. Guerrero (deceased); Jose "Tun Pepe"R. Guerrero (deceased); Juan "Ta Iku" Sanchez (deceased); Jose Sanchez (deceased); Jose Pangelinan (deceased); Mariano Laniyo (deceased); Sudo, a Japanese-born baker and another one whose name the family is unable to recall; Josie Dela Cruz (deceased); Henry Cabrera (deceased); Jose "Makaka" Ayuyu (deceased); Delgadina Matagolai (deceased); Margarita "Makaka" Ayuyu (deceased), and Mrs. Aldan (deceased), who is otherwise known as the mother of Ben Aldan of

See TASTE on Page 19

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Saipan's First and Finest
79 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
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Island Best Choice | Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe | 1-670-235-2883 | 9:00AM-6:00PM (M-F) / 8:00AM-4:00PM (S)
Armatech Remittance | Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa | 1-670-234-8894 | 10:00AM-6:00AM (M-F) /1:00PM-6:00PM (S)
Islander Mini Mart | Beach Road, San Antonio | 1-670-234-5031 | 7:00AM-7:00PM (M-SUN)
Islander Rent A Car | Airport Road, Dandan | 1-670-235-8233 | 8:00AM-5:00PM (M-F)
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HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
Saipan's First and Finest
79 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

79TH ANNIVERSARY Celebrations

Feature of the Month – SWEET BREAD $1.79

ALL PIES ARE 10% OFF THE WHOLE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023
HALF DOZEN DONUTS ARE $7.79 AND ONE DOZEN DONUTS ARE $14.79
SATURDAY & SUNDAY SAMPLING AT HERMAN'S 7:30AM to 11:30AM

Week 1 (Oct. 1-7, 2023)

PAN TUBA **$3.79**
PULLMAN BREAD **$1.79**

CAKE OF THE WEEK – TROPICAL SURPRISE

5" Round	8" Round	8x12 Sheet	12x16 Sheet	16x24 Sheet
$24.79	**$29.79**	**$56.79**	**$99.79**	**$163.79**

TAN MARAKITA'S CAFÉ – Breakfast Special **$7.79**
Fried rice, 2 pcs. Portuguese sausage, and 1 egg any style.

8oz Cup of Soup **$0.79**

Week 2 (Oct. 8-14, 2023)

BLUEBERRY CREAM CHEESE LOG **$2.79**
PAN DE SAL **$1.79**

CAKE OF THE WEEK – CHOCOLATE

5" Round	8" Round	8x12 Sheet	12x16 Sheet	16x24 Sheet
$16.79	**$26.79**	**$28.79**	**$52.79**	**$89.79**

TAN MARAKITA'S CAFÉ – Breakfast Special **$7.79**
2 Blueberry pancakes and 1 pc bacon.

8oz Cup of Soup **$0.79**

Week 3 (Oct. 15-21, 2023)

COCONUT MACAROONS **$1.79**
ROSKU **$4.79**

CAKE OF THE WEEK – OREO DARK CHOCOLATE

5" Round	8" Round	8x12 Sheet	12x16 Sheet	16x24 Sheet
$20.79	**$31.79**	**$55.79**	**$89.79**	**$168.79**

TAN MARAKITA'S CAFÉ – Breakfast Special **$7.79**
Kimchi fried rice, 1 pc Spam and 1 egg any style.

8oz Cup of Soup **$0.79**

Week 4 (Oct. 22-28, 2023)

ROSKETTI **$3.79**
CHAMORRO CAKE **$4.79**

CAKE OF THE WEEK – VELVET

5" Round	8" Round	8x12 Sheet	12x16 Sheet	16x24 Sheet
$22.79	**$29.79**	**$47.79**	**$87.79**	**$149.79**

TAN MARAKITA'S CAFÉ – Breakfast Special **$7.79**
Waffles and 1 pc fried chicken.

8oz Cup of Soup **$0.79**

Week 5 (Oct. 29-Nov. 4, 2023)

SPONGE CAKE **$4.79**
COOKIES (CHAMORRO, BUTTER, CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE CHIP 10 CT) **$3.79**

CAKE OF THE WEEK - STRAWBERRY

5" Round	8" Round	8x12 Sheet	12x16 Sheet	16x24 Sheet
$22.79	**$29.79**	**$47.79**	**$87.79**	**$149.79**

TAN MARAKITA'S CAFÉ – Breakfast Special **$7.79**
Breakfast burrito with orange slices.

8oz Cup of Soup **$0.79**

1 With every one-time purchase of **$15.00** from Tan Marakita's Café will entitle you to receive a ticket good towards a **FREE Cup of Coffee** or **Soft Drink**.

2 With every one-time retail purchase of **$30.00** from the Bakery or Tan Marakita's Cafe, you will receive a ticket, AND ten (10) tickets will get you a **FREE THANKSGIVING TURKEY A LA CARTE 12-14 lbs** just in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Limit one package per customer. WHILE SUPPLIES LASTS.

PROMOTIONS GOOD THROUGH THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023. NOT APPLICABLE FOR WHOLESALE, ROASTING SERVICES AND MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS.

Some of Herman's Modern Bakery's staff in 2023.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Some of Herman's Modern Bakery's staff in 2023.

"Herman's Modern Bakery had always been about our community. We are committed to continuing the legacy of our parents and that of my father's brothers...who have always considered giving the best quality baked products our community deserves."

TASTE

From page 17

Joeten Ace.

Also deserving recognition for their invaluable help with the bakery are Maria Manibusan; Francisco A. Camacho; Candido; Jose Ayuyu; Tadeo Sanchez; Jimmy Belen; Gabriel Sablan and wife, and Manuel Blas.

"Many of them worked and were the original bakers of Herman's. I am sure that there are many more who are very deserving of our family's gratitude and thanks. These people worked hard and were some of the best people one can work with," said Juan T. Guerrero.

Moreover, the 79-year success of Herman's Modern Bakery is a result of the steadfast loyalty of a community that for almost eight decades has relied on Herman's Modern Bakery for their daily supply of bread and baked goods.

"For our family, Herman's Modern Bakery had always been about our community. We are committed to continuing the legacy of our parents and that of my father's brothers, Jose and Juan, who have always considered giving the best quality baked products our community deserves. This is what our family and the future generation of Herman's Modern Bakery stands committed to," said Herman Guerrero Jr.

WEDNESDAY
LUNCH BUFFET
10:30 AM - 2:00 PM
TAN MARAKITA'S
CAFE
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Children: $10.79 (Ages 5-12 years)
Kids under 5 years are Free
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HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY

A legacy of grit and determination

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

Born from the ashes of World War II and out of the need to help provide sustenance to a community still reeling from the ravages of war is Herman's Modern Bakery—Saipan's mecca for baked bread, pastries, and home-grown cooking. The fact that it is still a successful business with 79 years in operation under its belt is a testament to the grit, tenacity, and passion of the bakery's original founder, Herman R. Guerrero, and generations of his family.

"All things Herman's are well loved as their baked products find their way to the homes of local families here and overseas every day of the year."

All things Herman's are well loved as their baked products find their way to the homes of local families here and overseas every day of the year. From their *rosku* to their Chamorro cookies to their blueberry cream cheese log, which is a bestseller among those bringing a taste of home to relatives living

See LEGACY on Page 21

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Herman R. Guerrero Sr., whose baking skills were the anchor behind the success of Herman's Modern Bakery as the oldest standing business in Micronesia, is known for his grit and generosity.

LEGACY

From page 20

anywhere outside of Saipan, to the coconut macarons and Herman's signature sweet bread—this bakery has it all. It is not surprising at all then, that the CNMI's first family-owned business is still going strong after more than seven decades in the local food industry business.

The story of Herman's Modern Bakery's success can be traced to the family

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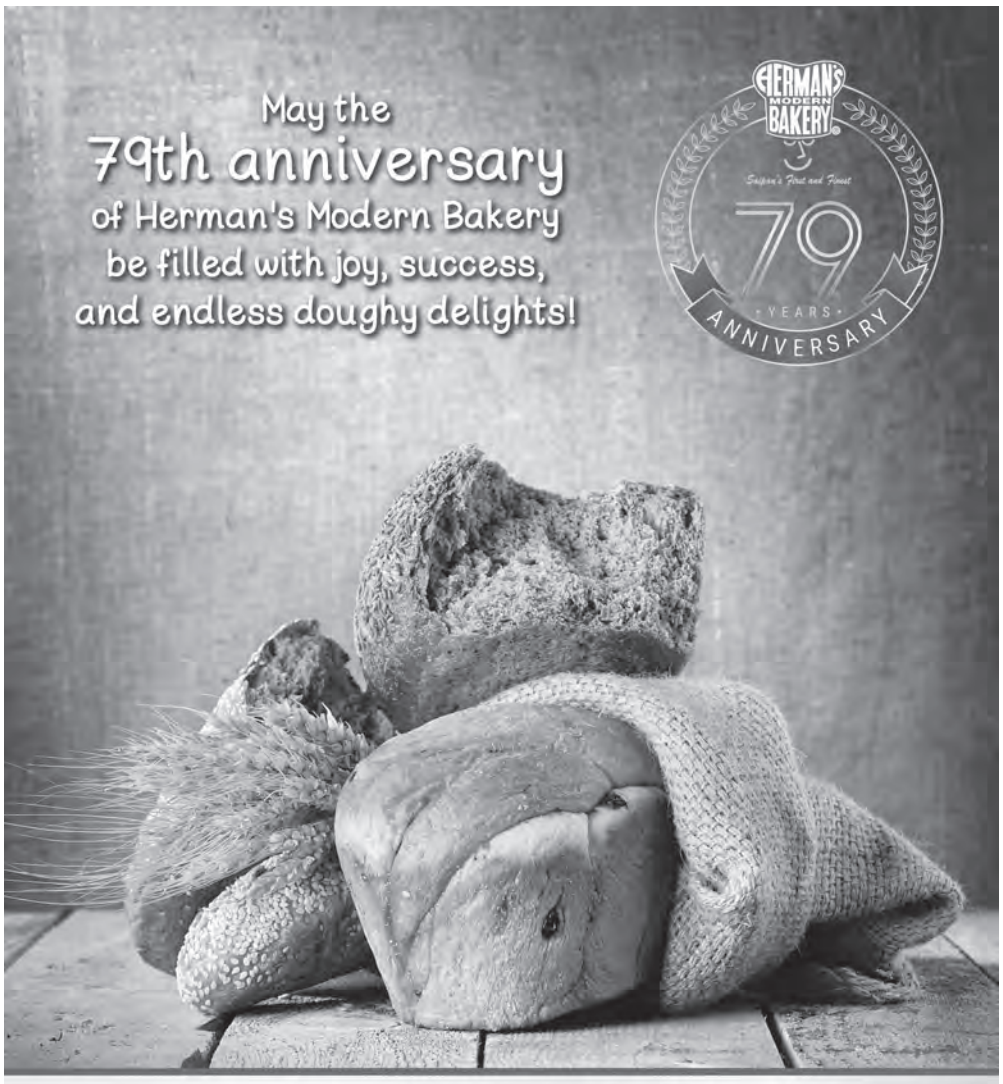

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Congratulations

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY

on an impressive 79 years of baking excellence as the oldest bakery in Saipan!

Your nearly eight decades of delightful treats and cherished memories have made you a cornerstone of our community. May your ovens continue to bake happiness for years to come!

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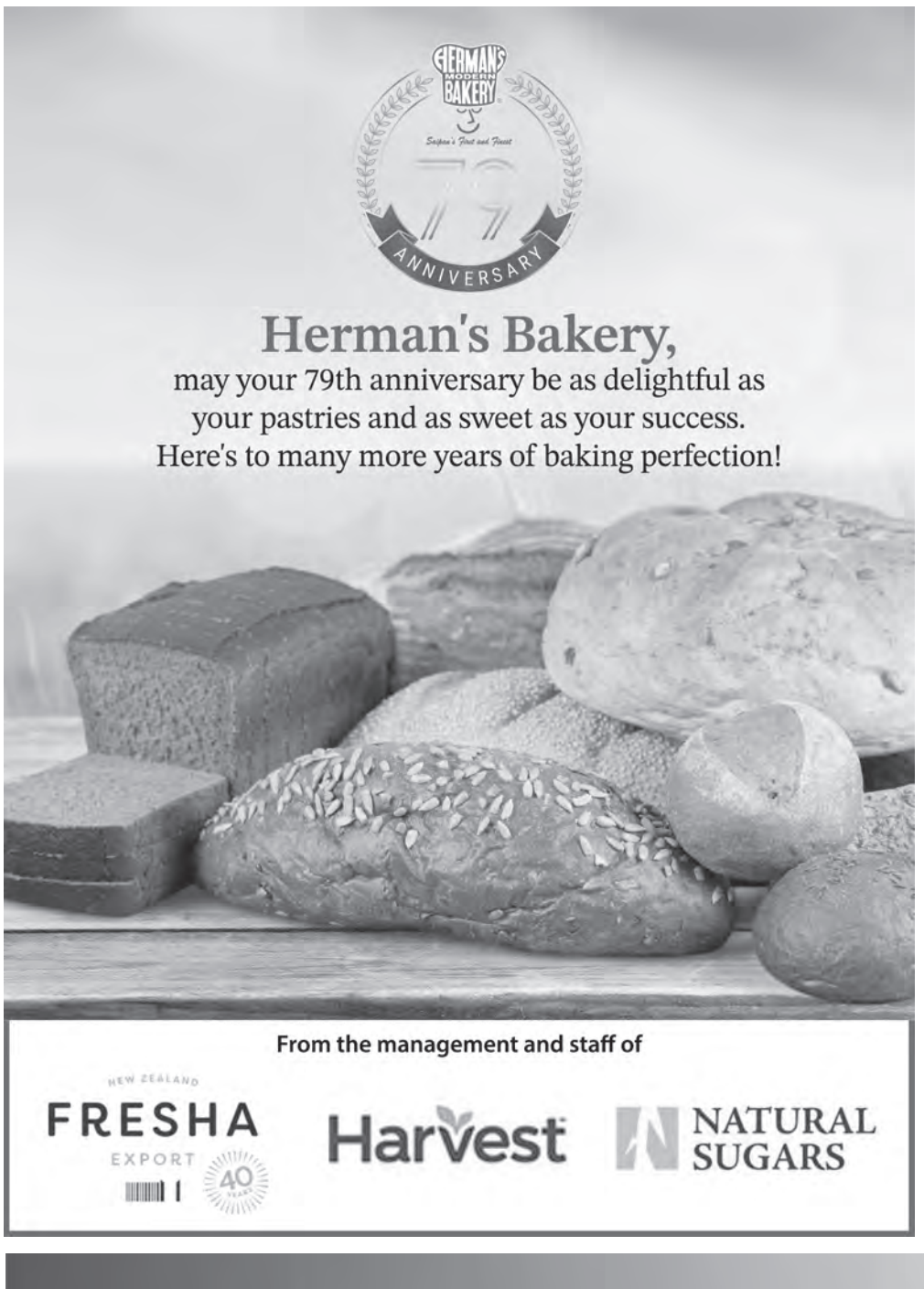

LEGACY

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patriarch, Herman R. Guerrero, who in 1944, was asked by the U.S, military to use his baking skills to bake bread for its personnel who were helping the islands recover in the aftermath of World War II.

According to local lore, Herman R. Guerrero was originally tapped to bake bread solely for U.S. military personnel stationed on post-war Saipan. It was Gregorio Sablan, the grandfather of current congressman, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), who recommended Herman R. Guerrero to the U.S. military, based on Guerrero's baking experience as an apprentice baker at the Shimada Bakery in Garapan prior to the war.

Once the war ended, the demand for more bread supply also grew. This time, aside from supplying bread to U.S. military personnel, there were some prisoners of war and, by large, the residents of Camp Chalan Kanoa, who needed to be fed. The elder Guerrero originally worked at the military bakery, which was then housed at the site of the current Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Susupe and supplied hundreds of bread daily for practically all residents of post-war Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Herman R. Guerrero, known in local circles as Tun Herman Pan (*pan* means bread), and his wife, Maria T. Guerrero, who is Tan Marakita, are the couple behind Herman's Modern Bakery. The Guerreros are known for their business acumen as well as for their generosity to the church and the community.

In 1945, Herman, with the help of his wife, Maria C. Tenorio-Guerrero, opened the bakery, backed by the encouragement and help of the U.S. military.

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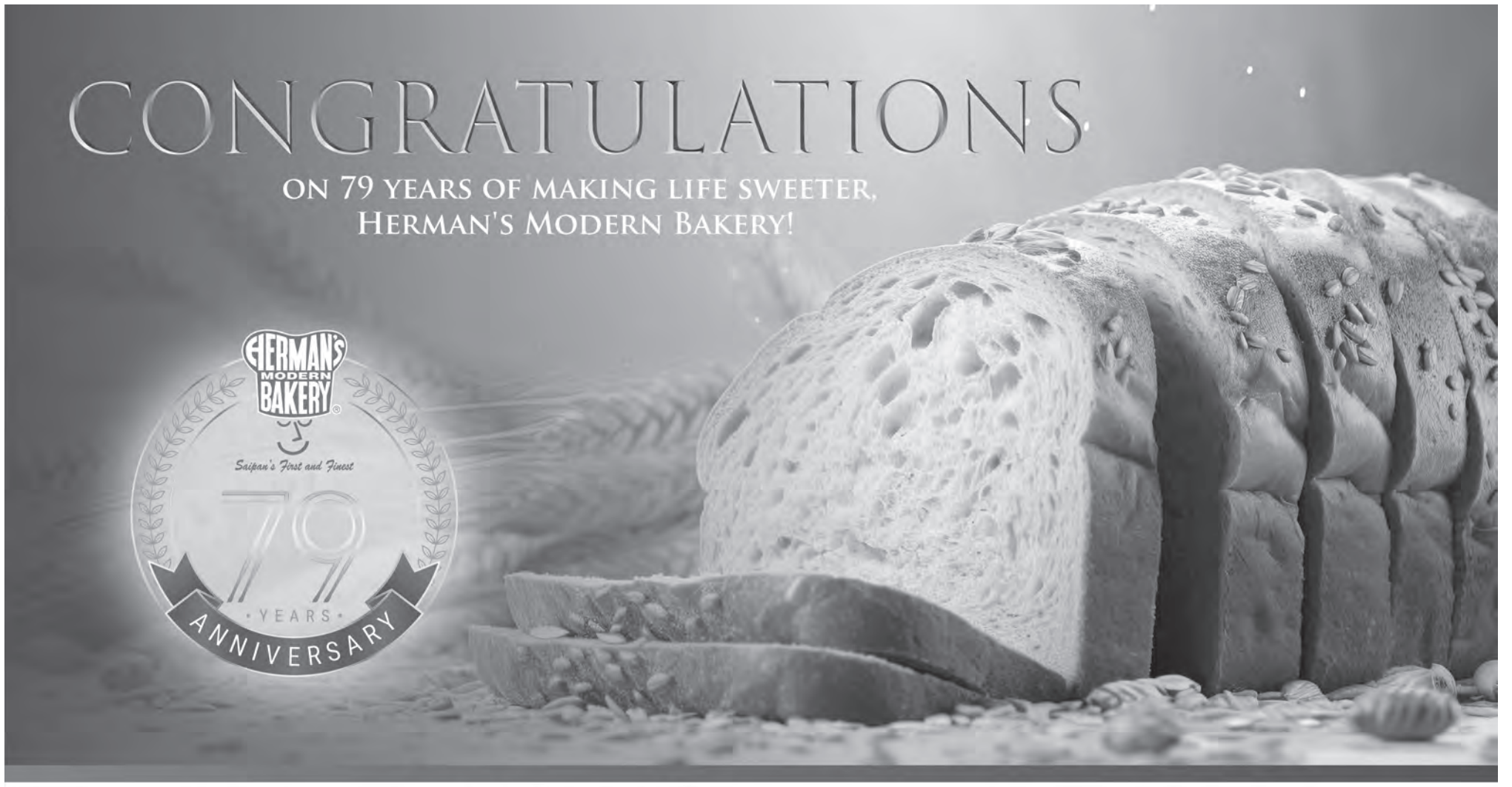

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LEGACY

From page 22

Herman was given surplus baking equipment from the U.S. Navy and supplies to continue to operate the bakery, which was originally located near the Chalan Kanoa post office. He was also encouraged to charge 5 cents for every loaf of bread that he sold. With this, Herman's Bakery became the first business to be established in Micronesia immediately after the war.

Since the time it opened, Herman's Modern Bakery has remained in the hands of Herman R. Guerrero and his direct descendants. In 1972, the Guerreros' sixth child, Juan T. Guerrero, otherwise known as Juan Pan and his wife, Roberta, came back to Saipan and took the helm of the business. Juan Pan was Herman's Modern Bakery's president and general manager for several years until he passed the latter position to his younger sister, Annie Hayes, the ninth sibling in the family.

With 31 years at Herman's, Hayes retired in March 2022 as its general manager, a position she held for eight years. Following the grit and determination set by her parents, Hayes, upon her retirement, assisted with expanding the

The old façade of Herman's Modern Bakery at Tun Herman Pan Road, formerly known as Airport Road.

bakery business to include a catering division, wholesale, Herman's Bakery, Tan Marakita's Café, Herman's Garapan outlet, and the Public School System's Food Service. Beginning with just a handful of employees, Herman's Modern Bakery now employs a staff of over 100 personnel.

Nowadays, the bakery is being managed by the third generation of Guerreros, with the 37-year-old Michael Robert Guerrero, a son of Juan, serving as general manager.

Among the most noteworthy milestones in its history is the official incorporation of Herman's Modern Bakery in 1976 and the move of the bakery's main facilities to its current location at the Tun Herman Pan Road, formerly known as Airport Road, in 1979.

Also in January 1979, Herman's expanded a small area in the main facility into a café known for serving local comfort food and meals as part of the new bakery location.

By the fall of 1981, Herman's launched its food services at the Mount Carmel School cafeteria and, two years later in 1983, Herman's was approved for a broader PSS contract to provide meals

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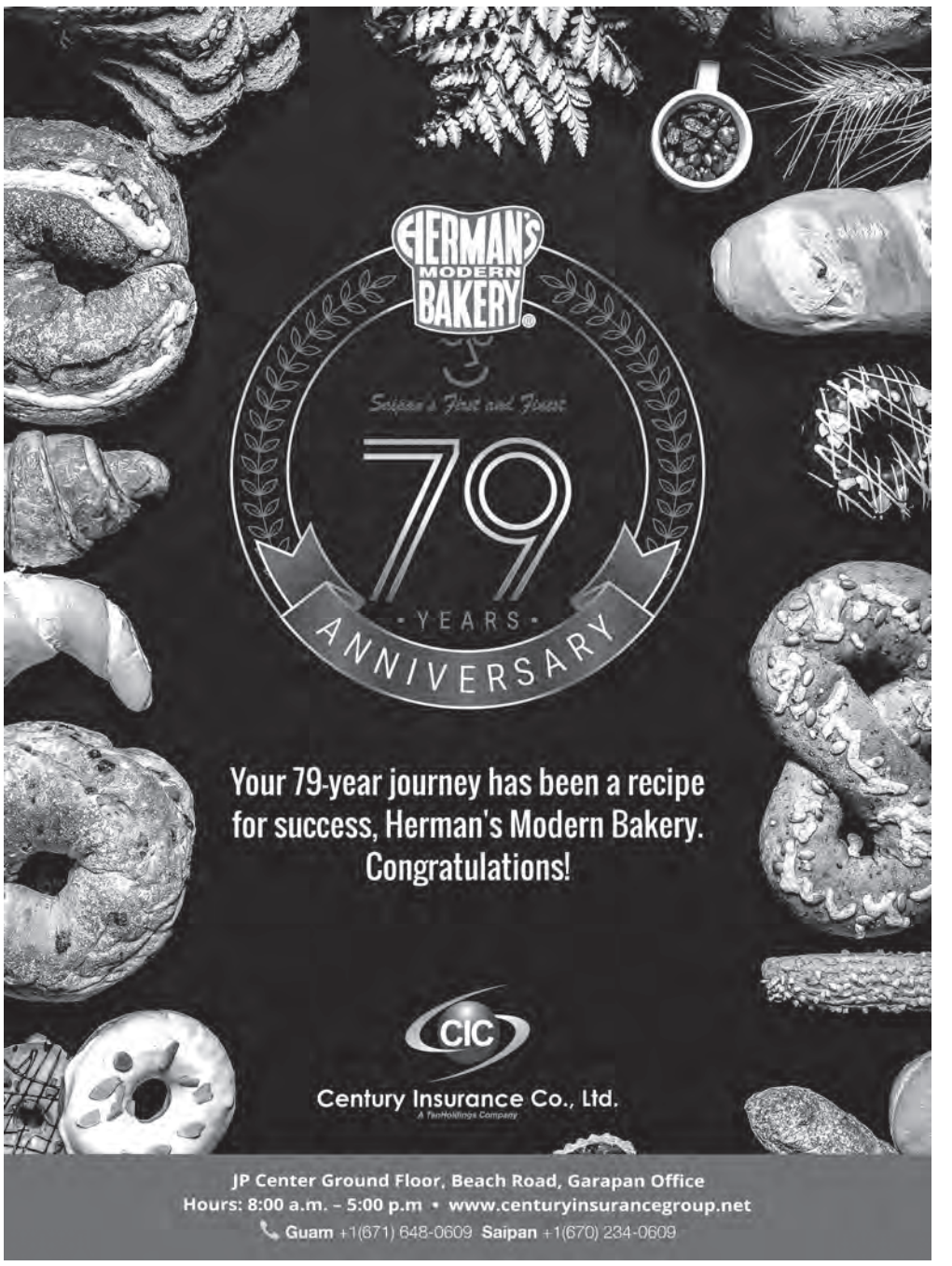
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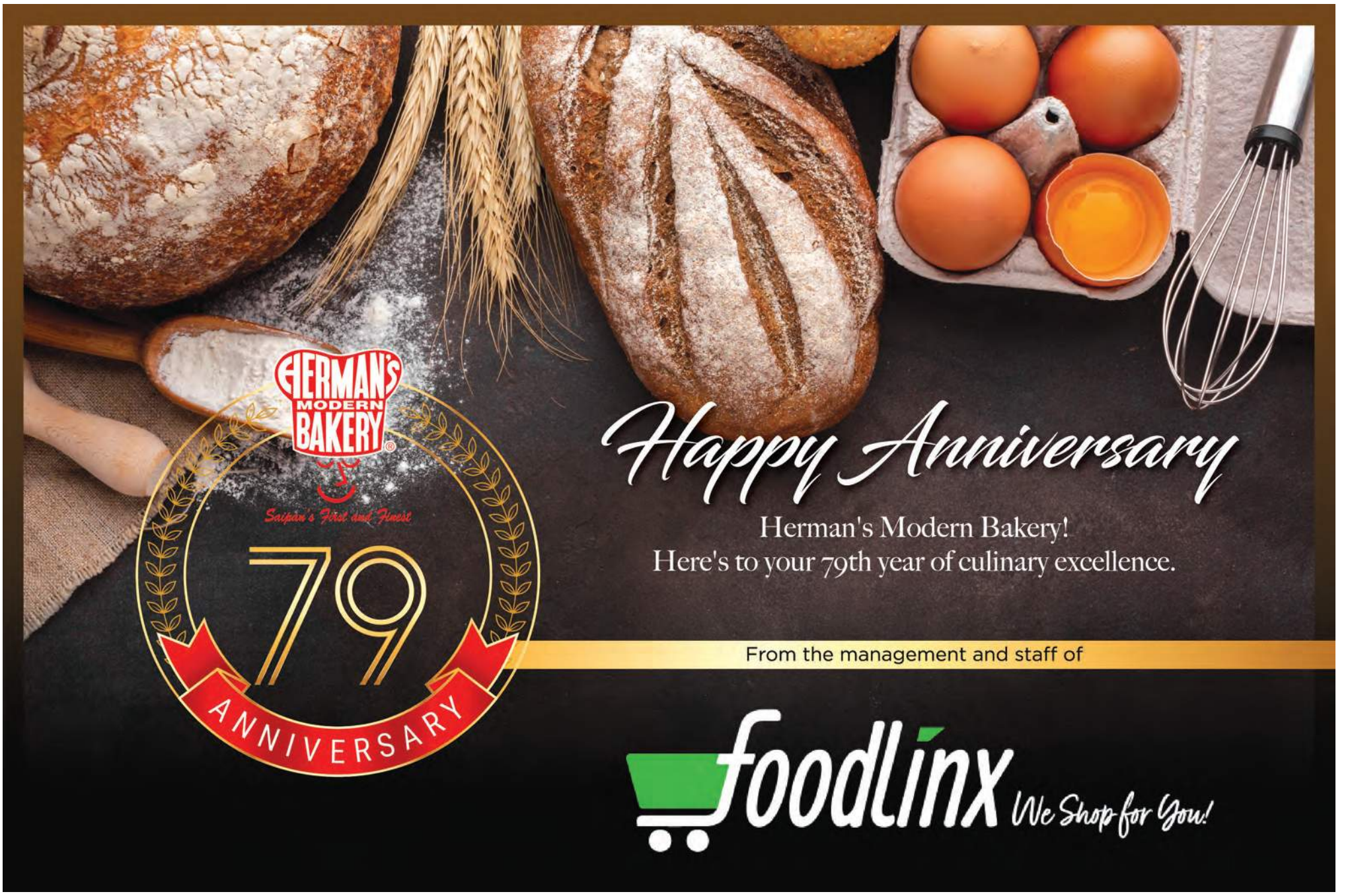

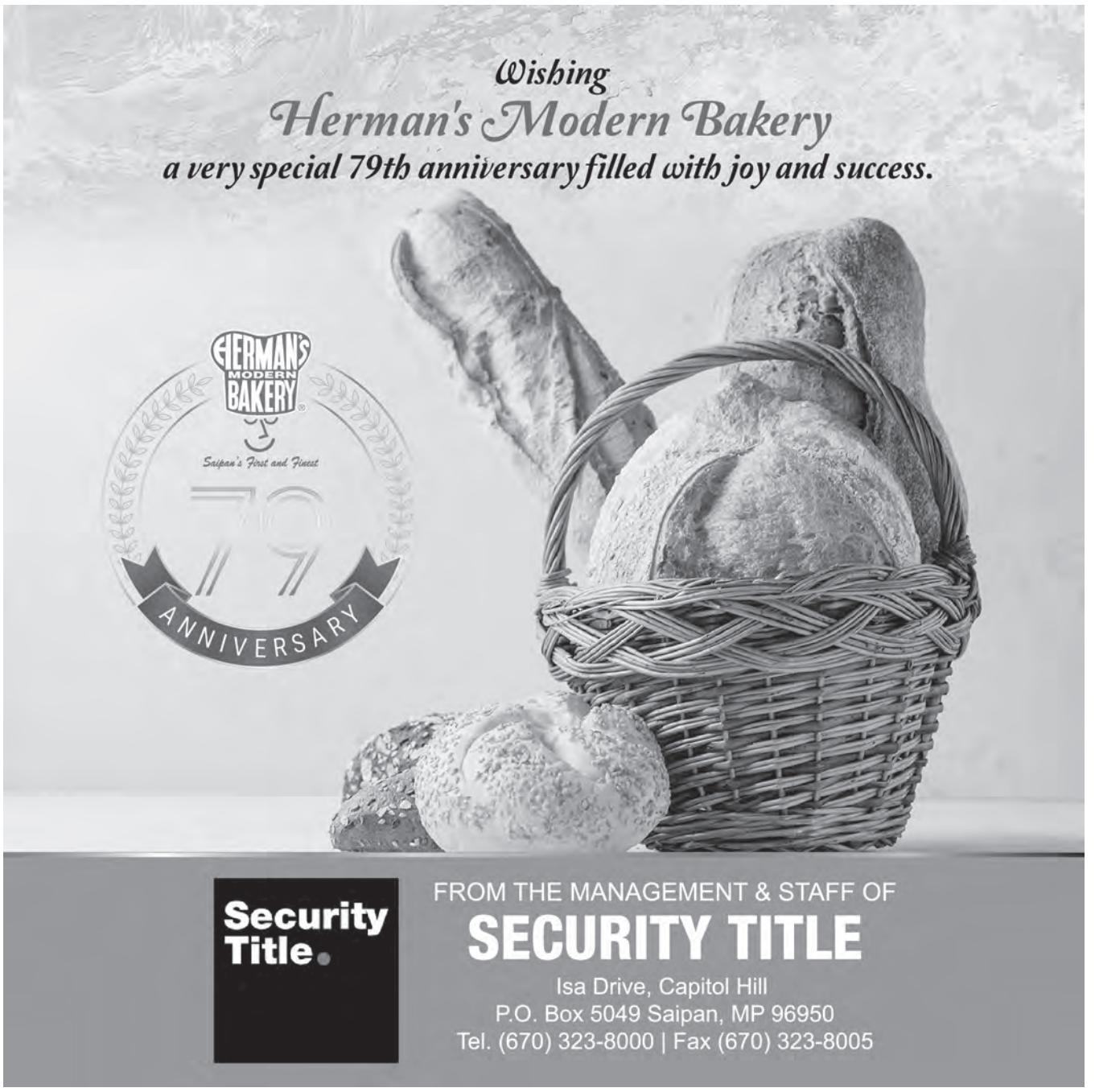

LEGACY

From page 23

in Saipan school cafeterias.

In 1982, Herman's cold storage and wholesale divisions were launched to augment and complement the growing demand from the company's food services

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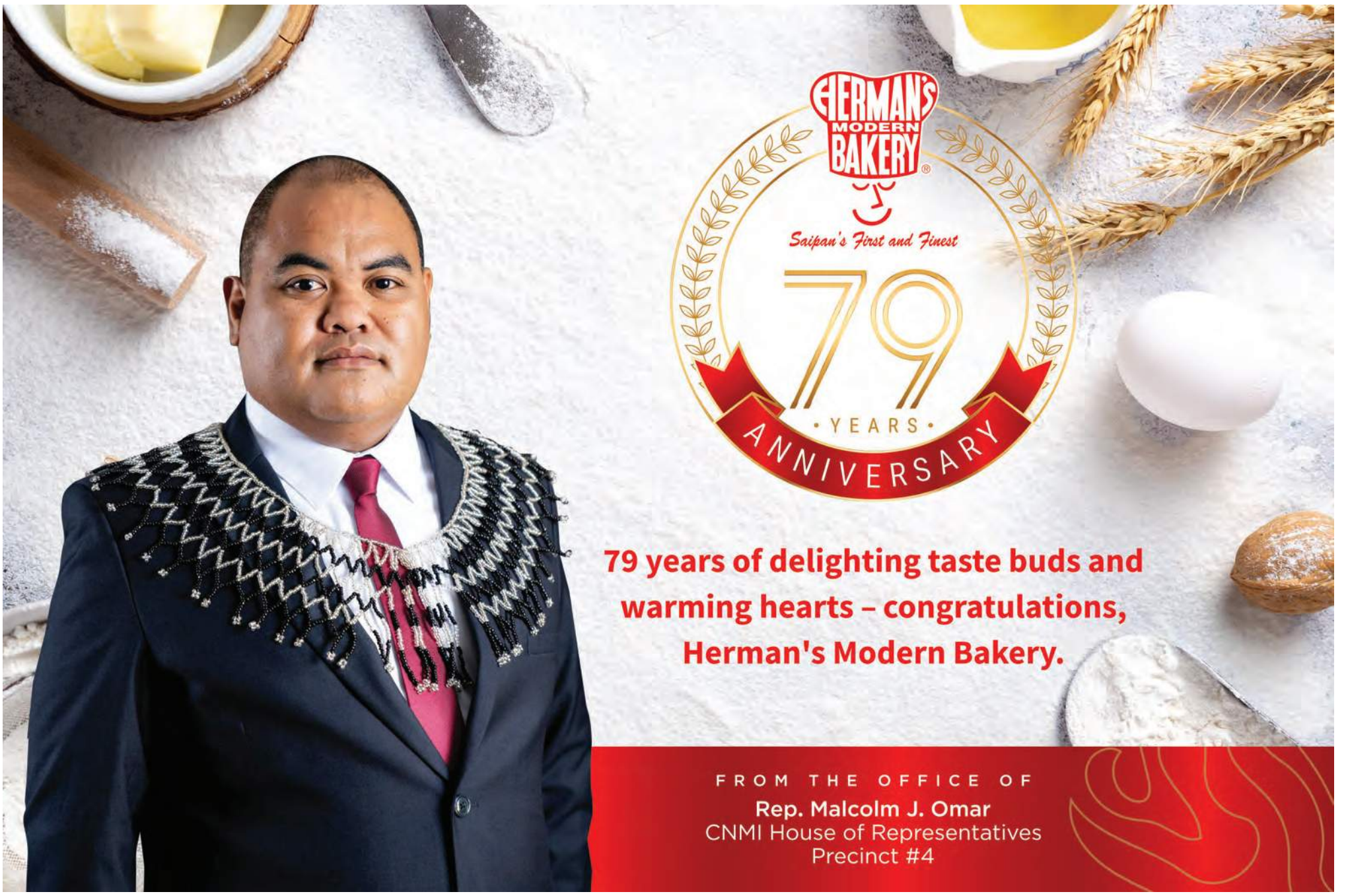
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Herman's Modern Bakery mixes traditional baking process and modern technology to produce the bread and baked goods Herman's has been known for the past 79 years.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Albert Tenorio, left, and Herman R. Guerrero Sr. are the first generation of Guerreros who worked hard to make Herman's Modern Bakery what it is now today—a family-owned business guided by the principles of hard work and determination, forever grateful to the local community that has supported their bakery business since it opened its doors in 1945.

LEGACY

From page 24

operation.

Due mainly to its growth as a business with an eye on diversification, Herman's joined forces with another local company and a Denmark-based company in 1984 to form Pacific Rainbow, with the goal of providing reconstituted milk to the islands. While this venture lasted only about two years, it proved that Herman's was a company that embraced innovation to expand its business interests.

In March 1995, Herman's was chosen by McDonald's of Saipan to produce its patented bun recipe and sometime during the same year, Herman's introduced one of its most loved baked products, the Chamorro cookies.

In addition to the family's successes in its bakery business, the Guerreros were also known for their generous spirit—a virtue that has been passed on to every generation of the family. Story has it that the Guerreros still gave away bread to those in need.

It is also widely known that Maria, lovingly known in local circles as Tan Marakita, always had food to share with those who visited their home.

For years, the Guerreros provided the Mercedarian

See LEGACY on Page 27

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LEGACY

From page 25

Sisters of Saipan their bread supply even after they were able to make their own provisions. Also, a little-known fact about the couple is how their generous donation was a tremendous help in the reconstruction of the Mount Carmel Church in Chalan Kanoa.

The Guerreros' legacy of giving to the community that has supported them through the years continues even until today. Herman's Modern Bakery's commitment to corporate social responsibility can be seen through their generous financial aid and support for community and government programs that touch the lives of every resident of the Northern Marianas. The company is one of the most notable contributors to the governor's yearly fundraising golf event, the Tournament of Champions, the proceeds of which are used to fund the numerous beautification programs on the islands.

Another big contribution Herman's Modern Bakery makes is in helping educate public and private school students by allowing them to visit their facilities to learn about bread-making, while student apprentices from the Northern Marianas Technical Institute are given use of their bakery to enhance their cooking and baking skills.

Beyond contributing to the development of the local food industry, Herman R. Guerrero's legacy of giving has also inspired four of his children to become public servants—Juan "Juan Pan," Herman "Jun Pan" T. Guerrero Jr., Florencio "Bobby" T. Deleon Guerrero, and Joseph "Lee Pan" T. Guerrero have each served as members of the CNMI House of Representatives.

Aside from being a former lawmaker, Juan T. Guerrero himself was also a member of various government boards and one of his most noteworthy accomplishments is being one of the members of the CNMI Retirement Fund board of trustees. Under this capacity, Juan T. Guerrero introduced reforms that saw major changes in the way retirement contributions were distributed to retirees.

Herman Jr., on the other hand, is an advocate of education and the humanities and has won national distinction for his work in preserving Chamorro culture.

The family's generosity also trickles down to their employees, some of whom have been with the Guerreros for more than 20 years.

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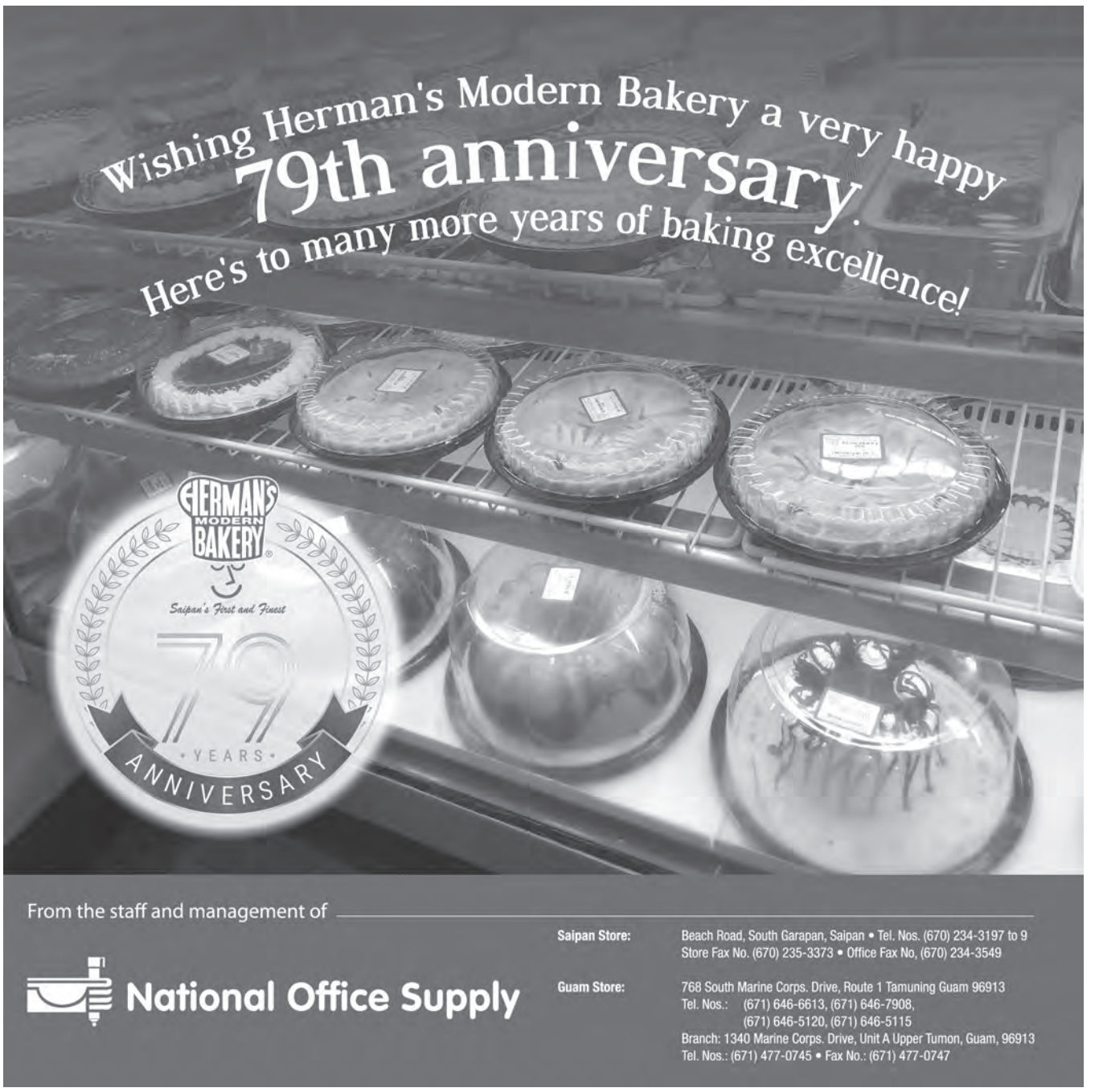
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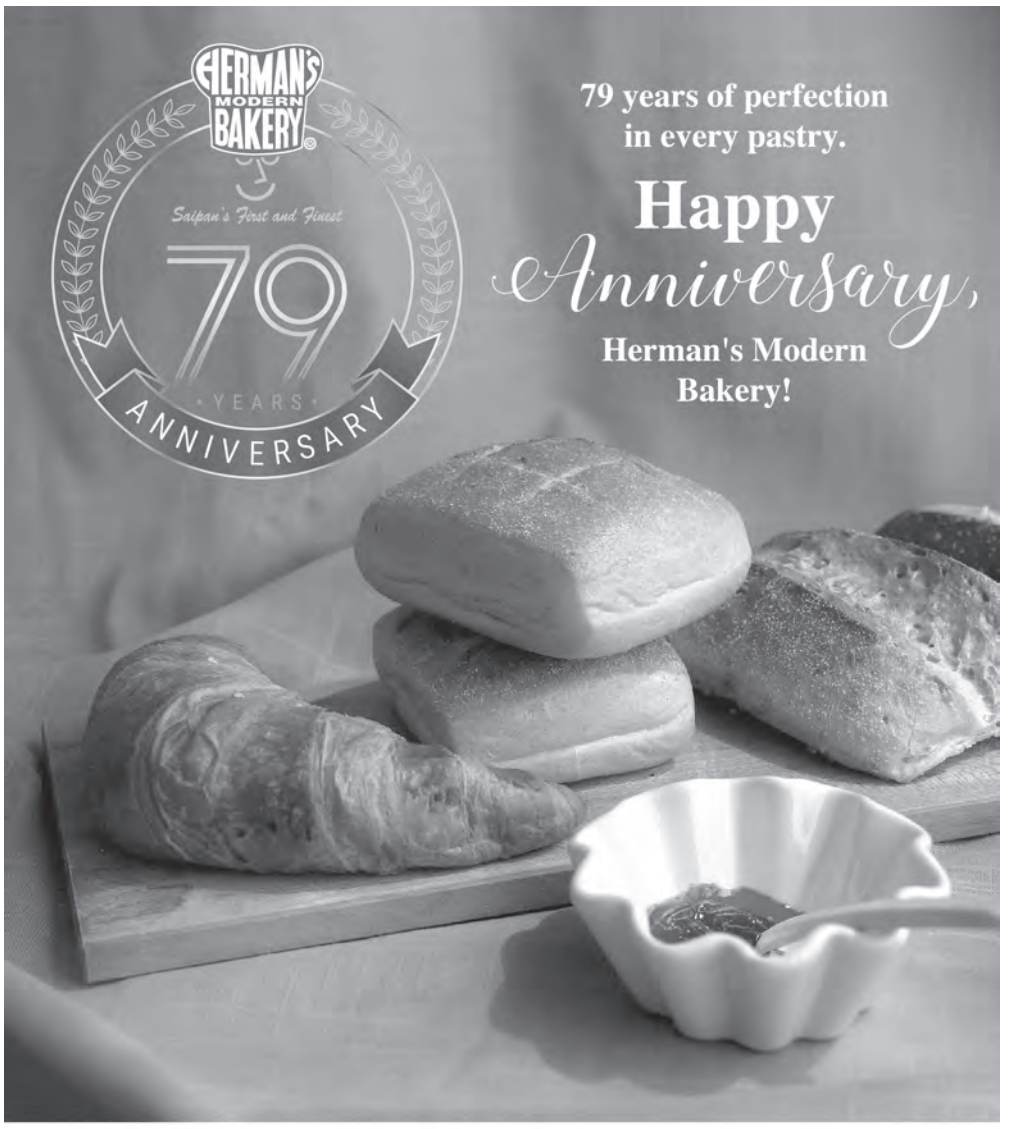

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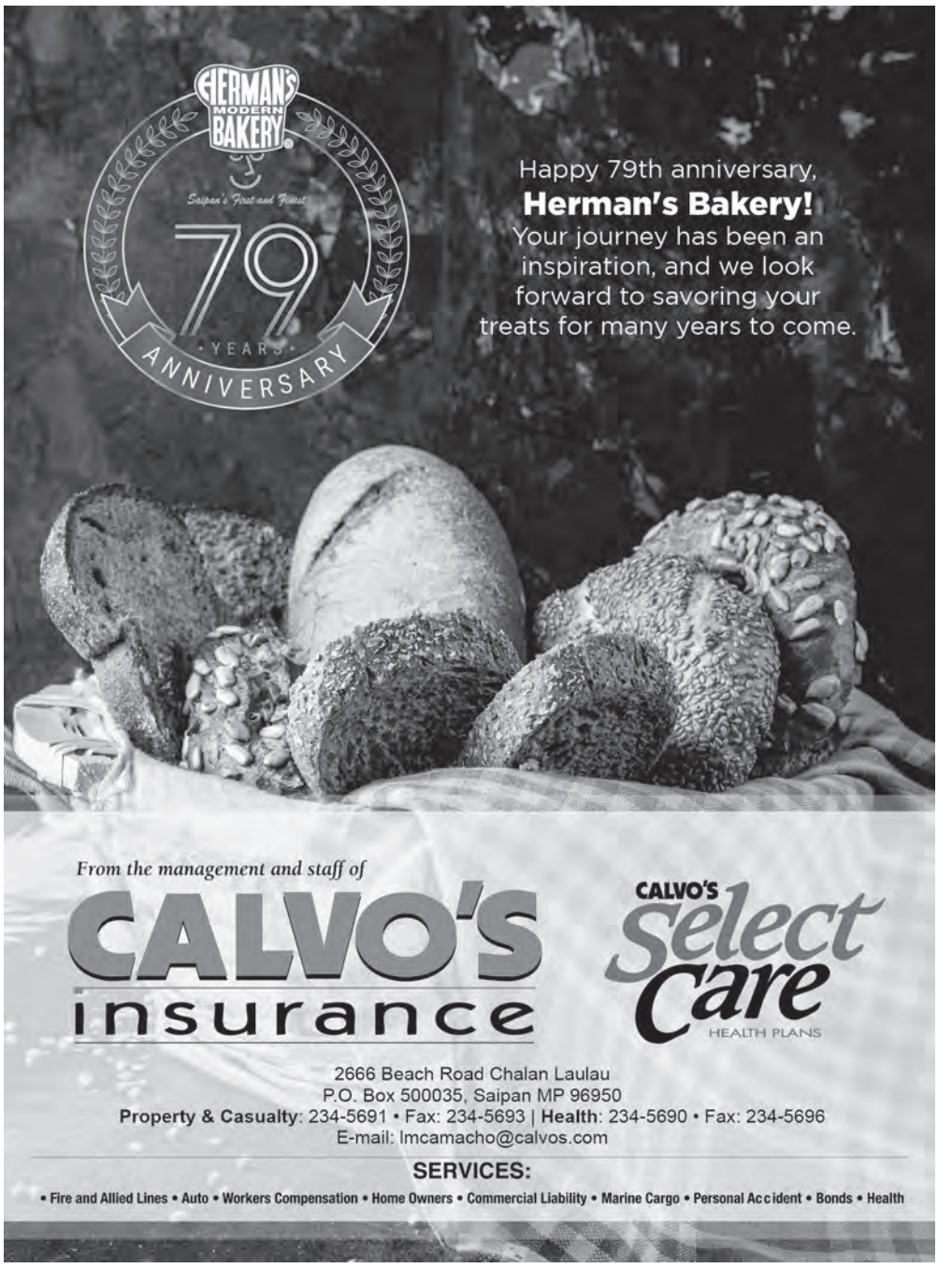
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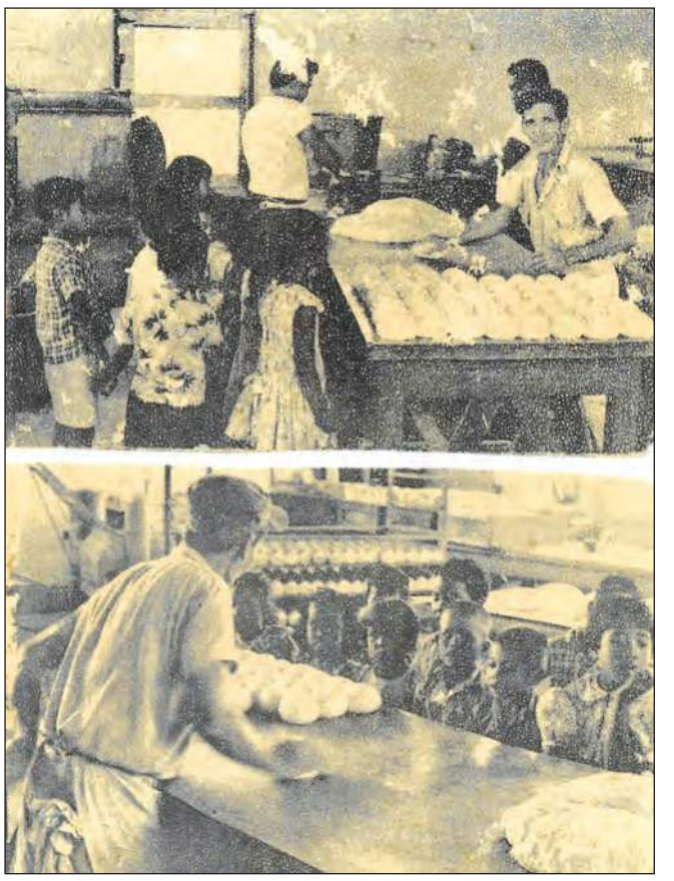
LEGACY

From page 27

One of them was Ernesto Lineses, the baker on whose hands the Guerreros entrusted the recipe to their iconic sweet bread. Many of Herman's employees are loyal, old-timers— bakers and staff who have stayed with the family not just out of duty but because they have found responsible employers who care for their employee's welfare and wellbeing.



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Even with their success, the Guerrero family had always opened its business in support of education. The doors of Herman's Modern Bakery was always open to students who want to learn the process of bread making directly from the CNMI's breadmasters.

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Business

GRMC names Manaloto as its chief medical officer

DEDEDO, Guam—Guam Regional Medical recently added a new member to its ExecutiveLeadership Team.

» Wielaard officially appointed CEO

Board-certified internist Dr. Edison P. Manaloto is appointed as GRMC's chief medical officer. Dr. Alexander "Beau" Wielaard, who was appointed as interim chief executive officer in August, is officially appointed as GRMC's CEO.

Manaloto

Wielaard

Manaloto joined GRMC in June 2020. He was elected as the chief of the medical staff by his peers in 2022. Prior to becoming a physician, Manaloto had an eclectic finance career as an auditor with Deloitte, assistant director of Finance with the Hyatt Hotels, and served as a budget analyst for both the late senator Vicente "Ben" Pangelinan and Speaker Benjamin Cruz. He was previously a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Government Financial Manager, and Certified Fraud Examiner.

In 2015, Manaloto completed his medical degree at the De La Salle Health Sciences Institute in the Philippines. He subsequently completed his internal Medicine Residency at the University of Hawaii in 2020 with a distinction in ultrasonography and returned to Guam as a licensed physician in Guam and Hawaii.

Before his official appointment as CEO, Wielaard served as an interim for two months while concurrently maintaining his position as CMO-a position he has held since 2020. Wielaard served as an emergency physician on Guam since 2016, working at both GMHA and GRMC. Two years later, he joined GRMC on a full-time basis and became a core developer of GRMC's institutional response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wielaard earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Georgia in 2007, and subsequently completed his internship and residency in Emergency Medicine in Maryland. He has an extensive and diverse background of practicing medicine at inner-city trauma centers, suburban community hospitals, and rural critical access facilities, and volunteered in places like Alaska, the Philippines, and Africa. ***(PR)***

Docs: Off-duty pilot says 'I'm not OK' before trying to cut engines midflight

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—An off-duty airline pilot riding in an extra cockpit seat on a Horizon Air flight said "I'm not OK" just before trying to cut the engines midflight and later told police he had been struggling with depression, according to charging documents made public Tuesday.

State prosecutors in Oregon filed 83 counts of attempted murder against Alaska Airlines pilot Joseph David Emerson, 44, on Tuesday just before he appeared in court, with his attorney, Noah Horst, entering not guilty pleas on his behalf. Federal prosecutors meanwhile charged Emerson with interfering with a flight crew, which can carry up to 20 years in prison.

According to a probable cause statement filed in Multnomah County Circuit Court, Emerson told Port of Portland police following his arrest that he had been struggling with depression, that a friend had recently died and that he had taken psychedelic mushrooms about 48 hours before he attempted to cut the engines. He also said he had not slept in more than 40 hours, according to the document.

Police reported that Emerson did not appear to be intoxicated at the time of the interview, and in a statement Tuesday, Alaska Airlines, which owns Horizon, said neither the gate agents nor flight crew noticed any signs of impairment that might have barred him from the flight. An FBI agent wrote in a probable cause affidavit in support of the federal charge that Emerson "said it was his first-time taking mushrooms."

While psilocybin is illegal in most of the country—Oregon legalized it for adults this year—the Food and Drug Administration in 2018 designated it a "breakthrough therapy" that might be used for mental health conditions or substance use disorders.

Emerson, an Alaska Airlines pilot from Pleasant Hill, California, was arrested Sunday night after the flight crew reported that he attempted to shut down the engines on a Horizon Air flight from Everett, Washington, to San Francisco while riding in the extra seat in the cockpit. The plane was diverted to Portland, where it landed safely with more than 80 people on board.

The FBI affidavit said Emerson, who as an off-duty pilot was authorized to ride in the cockpit's jump seat, made casual conversation with the captain and first officer when the plane was between Astoria, Oregon, and Portland, before trying to grab two red handles that would have activated the plane's fire suppression system and cut off fuel to its engines.

After what the flight crew described as a brief struggle, lasting only about 30 seconds, Emerson left the cockpit, the FBI said.

Flight attendants placed Emerson in wrist restraints and seated him in the rear of the aircraft, but as the plane descended, he tried to grab the handle of an emergency exit, according to the document. A flight attendant stopped him by placing her hands on top of his, it said.

Alaska Airlines said Tuesday that Emerson had been relieved of all duties.

Horst did not immediately speak with reporters following the hearing or respond to phone and email messages seeking comment.

The captain and first officer told police after the plane landed that Emerson said "I'm not OK" just before he reached up to pull the handles. They were able to stop him before he pulled the handles all the way down, the affidavit said.

Emerson walked calmly to the back of the plane after being told to leave the cockpit and told a flight attendant, "You need to cuff me right now or it's going to be bad," the affidavit said. Another flight attendant heard him saying, "I messed everything up" and "tried to kill everybody."

Nation

GOP nominates Mike Johnson for speaker

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans chose Rep. Mike Johnson as their latest nominee for House speaker late Tuesday, hours after an earlier pick, Rep. Tom Emmer, abruptly withdrew in the face of opposition from Donald Trump and hardline GOP lawmakers.

Johnson of Louisiana, a lower-ranked member of the House GOP leadership team, becomes the fourth Republican nominee after Emmer and the others fell short in what has become an almost absurd cycle of political infighting since Kevin McCarthy's ouster as GOP factions jockey for power.

Refusing to unify, far-right members won't accept a more traditional speaker and moderate conservatives don't want a hardliner. During private balloting, Johnson won a majority, but ahead of an expected House floor vote Wednesday the nominee will need almost all Republicans to win the gavel.

"Mike! Mike! Mike!" lawmakers chanted at a press conference afterward, surrounding Johnson and posing for selfies in a show of support.

Three weeks on, the Republicans have been frittering away their majority status—a maddening embarrassment to some, democracy in action to others, but not at all how the House is expected to function.

Anxious and exhausted, Republican lawmakers are desperately trying to move on. "Pretty sad commentary on governance right now," said Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark. "Maybe on the fourth or fifth or sixth or 10th try we'll get this thing right."

After he withdrew Tuesday afternoon, Emmer briskly left the building where he had been meeting privately with Republicans. He said later at the Capitol that Trump's opposition did not affect his decision to bow out.

"I made my decision based on my relationship with the conference," he said, referring to the GOP majority. He said he would support whomever emerges as the new nominee. "We'll get it done."

Trump, speaking as he left the courtroom in New York where he faces business fraud charges, said his "un-endorsement" must have had an impact on Emmer's bid.

"He wasn't MAGA," said Trump, the party's front-runner for the 2024 presidential election, referring to his Make America Great Again campaign slogan.

House Republicans returned behind closed doors, where they spend much of their time, desperately searching for a leader who can unite the factions, reopen the House and get the U.S. Congress working again.

Attention quickly turned to Johnson, who was the second highest vote-getter on Tuesday morning's internal ballots.

A lawyer specializing in constitutional issues, Johnson had rallied Republicans around Trump's legal effort to overturn the 2020 election results.

Elevating Johnson to speaker would giving Louisianans two high-ranking GOP leaders, putting him above Majority Leader Steve Scalise, who was rejected by hardliners in his own bid as speaker.

But hardliners swiftly resisted Johnson's bid and a new list of candidates emerged. Among them was Reps. Byron Donalds of Florida, a Trump ally who ran third on the morning ballot, and a few others.

In the end, Johnson won 128 votes on the evening ballot, more than any other candidate. McCarthy, who was not on the ballot, won a surprising 43 votes.

One idea circulating, first reported by NBC News, was to reinstall McCarthy as speaker with hardline Rep. Jim Jordan in a new leadership role.

It was being pitched as a way to unite the conference, lawmakers said, but many said it would not fly.

Toll rises to 8 dead, 63 hurt from Louisiana interstate pileup

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The toll from a series of crashes on a Louisiana interstate rose to eight dead and 63 injured Tuesday evening, a day after a "super fog" of marsh fire smoke and dense fog snared more than 160 vehicles in the fiery pileup, authorities said.

Lance Scott was among the many drivers caught in the wreckage on Interstate 55 west of New Orleans. The 51-year-old had been driving his daughter to the airport Monday morning when the fog thickened like a "white-out on a ski slope." He slammed on his brakes, narrowly avoiding the cars in front of him while hearing "the most horrendous clank of metal" behind him.

"It was, 'Bang. Bang. Bang.' It just went on... for probably 45 seconds," Scott said. "As every second went by the clanking of the metal got a little bit fainter, which told me it was backing up—so I knew there was layers and layers of collisions."

Scott turned to his 24-year-old daughter, an intensive care unit nurse, and said to her, "There's going to be a lot of people who need help and I need you to go out and do what you do."

Amid the ominous crackling of flames in the wreckage, the fog slowly lifted afterward to reveal the extent of the pileup. Scott and his daughter helped people out of their cars, some with noticeably broken collarbones. One had to wait for first responders to bring the Jaws of Life.

An estimated 168 vehicles were involved in the crashes, Louisiana State Police said. By Tuesday evening the number of fatalities had increased from seven to eight and the number of reported injured more than doubled, Louisiana State Police said in a news release.

At least 63 people were injured, with injuries ranging from minor to critical, others sought medical aid on their own, authorities said in the update.

It is unclear whether it was the most significant crash ever handled by Louisiana State Police, given the number of vehicles and fatalities involved, state police Sgt. Kate Stegall told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

"However, I can tell you that this is an extensive and devastating incident, resulting in loss of lives and profound repercussions for both the community and first responders," Stegall said.

The crashes began before 9 a.m. Monday along a one-mile (1.6-kilometer) stretch of the elevated interstate, which passes over swamp and open water between Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas, State Police Sgt. Kate Stegall said in a news briefing.

Asia

THROUGH 'FRAUDULENT' NGOs

US watchdog: Taliban benefiting from int'l aid

to Afghanistan has warned that the Taliban are benefiting from international aid through the establishment of fraudulent nongovernmental organizations.

The Taliban have exerted greater control over national and international NGOs since seizing power in August 2021. They have barred Afghan women from NGO work and sought to push out foreign organizations from the education sector.

A report from the U.S. Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR, said it found that the Taliban benefit from American-funded education programming through the generation of tax revenues and from more "nefarious" methods like the establishment of fraudulent NGOs and extorting and infiltrating existing NGOs to obtain or direct international donor aid.

In May, a SIGAR report highlighted the Taliban's interference with NGO work in Afghanistan. The Ministry of Economy, which supervises the sector, rejected the claims. Ministry spokesman Abdul Rahman Habib, responding to the latest SIGAR report on Monday, said there was no evidence of interference.

According to the report, published this month, the U.S. has spent around $185 million on education in Afghanistan since August 2021.

An NGO official told SIGAR that the Taliban target and extort Afghans who receive monetary support from American-funded education programs under the guise of taxation. In another example, NGO officials told the watchdog that the Taliban coerced NGOs into hiring supporters or purchasing goods from Taliban-owned companies.

Taliban policies and priorities have reduced the overall quality of education, with a drop in the number of teachers and a decrease in teacher quality, as unqualified community members or Taliban officials replace staff, SIGAR said.

"We found that the Taliban have been unable to fully fund public school teacher salaries and building maintenance costs, leading to further teacher shortages and the deterioration of school buildings."

The redirection of international donor aid to community-based education schools, along with financial and infrastructure challenges facing the Taliban, raised serious questions about how the Taliban could sustain the education sector and if they had any intention of doing so, the report said.

An Education Ministry spokesman, Qari Mansor Ahmad Hamza, called the SIGAR report baseless and said the quality of teaching and school facilities in Afghanistan is better than before.

"At present, the projects and financial assistance of international aid agencies are under the strong supervision of the top leadership of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan," Hamza said, employing the term the Taliban use to describe their administration.

The leadership promises to "invest this aid" and share reports with the country, the spokesman added.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistani court extends protection from arrest in graft cases to ex-premier Sharif

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A Pakistani court has extended protection from arrest to former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in graft cases while another withdrew its arrest warrant against him on Tuesday following his return home after four years of self-imposed exile in London. Sharif appeared at the Islamabad High Court and the anti-graft tribunal to appeal his 2018 conviction on corruption and clear his name prior to parliamentary elections due in January. The court extended Sharif's bail until Thursday, his lawyer Azam Nazeer Tarar said. Hundreds of his supporters gathered outside the court complex building, throwing rose petals on his car as he arrived amid tight security. Sharif stepped down as prime minister in 2017 over corruption charges. In 2018, he was sentenced to 10 years in prison by the anti-graft tribunal in a corruption case involving purchases of luxury apartments in London. A year later, he complained of chest pains and was granted permission by his then-successor Imran Khan to travel to London for medical treatment following a court order. He cited medical conditions as not allowing him to travel back to Pakistan. In 2020, an anti-graft court in Islamabad issued a warrant for his arrest after he failed to return.

China replaces defense minister months after foreign minister removed from office

TAIPEI. Taiwan (AP)—China has replaced Defense Minister Gen. Li Shangfu, who has been out of public view for almost two months, state media reported Tuesday. No further information was given.

Li is the second senior Chinese official to disappear this year, following former Foreign Minister Qin Gang, who was removed from office in July with no explanation offered. Li, who became defense minister during a Cabinet reshuffle in March, hasn't been seen since giving a speech on Aug. 29. There is no indication that the disappearances of Qin and Li signal a change in China's foreign or defense policies, although they have raised questions about the resilience of president and ruling Communist Party leader Xi Jinping's circle of power. Xi has a reputation for valuing loyalty above all and has relentlessly attacked corruption in public and private, sometimes in what has been seen as a method of eliminating political rivals and shoring up his political position amid a deteriorating economy and rising tensions with U.S. over trade, technology and Taiwan. Li is under U.S. sanctions related to his overseeing weapon purchases from Russia that bar him from entering the country. China has since cut off contacts with the U.S. military, mainly in protest over U.S. arm sales to Taiwan, but also strongly implying that Washington must lift the measures against Li, which Beijing refuses to publicly recognize. The announcement from state broadcaster CCTV said that both Li and Qin had been removed from the State Council, China's Cabinet and the center of government power. That virtually assures the end of their political careers, although it remains unclear whether they will face prosecution or other legal sanctions. CCTV also announced Lan Fo'an's new appointment as finance minister, and Yin He'jun as science and technology minister. China's political and legal systems remain highly opaque, fueling lively discussion of possible corruption, personal foibles or fallings-out with other powerful figures leading to the downfall of top officials.

World

Israel vows again to destroy Hamas

AP

United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken, center, and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield, left, talk with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres before a Security Council meeting at United Nations headquarters, Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023.

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Israel vowed again to destroy Hamas, rejecting calls for a cease-fire from the U.N. chief, the Palestinians and many countries at a high-level U.N. meeting on Tuesday and declaring that the war in Gaza is not only its war but "the war of the free world."

» Rejects calls for cease-fire in Gaza at major UN meeting

Israel's Foreign Minister Eli Cohen also dismissed calls for "proportionality" in the country's response to Hamas' surprise attacks on Israel on Oct. 7 that killed 1,400 people and has since led to more than 5,700 Palestinian deaths in Gaza according to its Health Ministry.

"Tell me, what is a proportionate response for killing of babies, for rape (of) women and burn them, for beheading a child?" Cohen asked. "How can you agree to a cease-fire with someone who swore to kill and destroy your own existence?"

He told the U.N. Security Council that the proportionate response to the Oct. 7 massacre is "a total destruction to the last one of the Hamas," calling the extremist group "the new Nazis." He stressed: "It is not only Israel's right to destroy Hamas. It's our duty."

Cohen called the Oct. 7 attacks "a wake-up call for the entire free world" against extremism, and he urged "the civilized world to stand united behind Israel to defeat Hamas."

And he warned that today it is Israel, and tomorrow Hamas and the attackers "will be at everyone's doorstep," starting with the West.

Cohen also accused Qatar of financing Hamas and said the fate of the more than 200 hostages taken from Israel, some of whose families came to the U.N. meeting, was in the hands of its emir.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad al-Maliki demanded an end to the Israeli attacks.

"We are here today to stop the killing, to stop … the ongoing massacres being deliberately and systematically and savagely perpetrated by Israel, the occupying power, against the Palestinian civilian population," he said. "Over 2 million Palestinians are on a survival mission every day, every night."

Under international law, he said "it is our collective human duty to stop them."

Al-Maliki warned that more attacks and killings and weapons and alliances won't make Israel safer: "Only peace will."

"For those actively engaged to avoid an even greater humanitarian catastrophe and regional spillover, it must be clear that this can only be achieved by putting an immediate end to the Israeli war launched against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip," he said. "Stop the bloodshed."

Zelenskyy: Russian naval assets no longer safe in Black Sea near Crimea

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy claimed on Tuesday that recent Ukrainian attacks have denied the Russian fleet safe bases and secure maritime corridors in the western part of the Black Sea, as Kyiv's troops look to squeeze the Kremlin's occupying forces out of the Crimean Peninsula.

Crimea provides rear support for Moscow's battlefield efforts further west and has been a frequent target for Ukrainian forces during the war since Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"The Russian fleet is no longer capable of operating in the western part of the Black Sea and is gradually retreating from Crimea," Zelenskyy claimed, without providing evidence. "This is a historic achievement."

Ukraine is keen to show that billions of dollars' worth of weapons supplied by its Western allies have allowed it to make progress in the fighting, as the conflict enters its 21st month amid a broad stalemate.

With the war poised to extend into another winter and likely deep into next year, Kyiv is pushing its allies to provide it with more military assets. Ukrainian officials, meanwhile, are competing for the world's attention with the Israel-Hamas war.

Ukraine's forces are not yet able to strike at any target in Crimea and its waters but that capability is coming closer, Zelenskyy told a meeting of the Crimea Platform, a diplomatic forum, in Prague via video link. He did not elaborate.

The Russian Defense Ministry said its forces hit three Ukrainian sea drones in the Black Sea early Tuesday.

Russia annexed Crimea, in eastern Ukraine, in 2014. In February last year, it launched a full-scale invasion that also aims to annex the Ukrainian provinces of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia.

Since the collapse last August of a deal allowing Ukraine to safely export grain despite the war, Zelenskyy said, a new Black Sea export corridor has allowed some 50 ships to set sail, with more than 50 more departures expected. He did not provide details.

Life & Style

‘Shaft’ star Richard Roundtree dies at 81

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Richard Roundtree, the trailblazing actor who starred as the ultra-smooth private detective in several “Shaft” films beginning in the early 1970s, has died. He was 81.

Roundtree’s longtime manager, Patrick McMinn, said the actor had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died at his home in Los Angeles on Tuesday. He was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1993 and underwent a double mastectomy.

“Richard’s work and career served as a turning point for African American leading men,” McMinn said. “The impact he had on the industry cannot be overstated.”

Roundtree, who was born in New Rochelle, New York, was considered as the first Black action hero and became one of the leading actors in the blaxploitation genre through his New York street smart John Shaft character in the Gordon Parks-directed film in 1971. At age 28, it was Roundtree’s first feature film appearance after starting his career as a model.

AP

Richard Roundtree attends the premiere of "Shaft" on June 10, 2019, in New York.

Roundtree’s “Shaft” was part of a change in how Black movies were viewed in Hollywood, which failed to consider Black actors—especially for leading roles—in projects at the time. The blaxploitation films were primarily aimed at the African American audiences.

In the film, his character navigated the world of thugs. He regularly whipped out popular one-liners like “It’s my duty to please that booty.”

“What we were doing was a good, old Saturday afternoon shoot ’em up,” Roundtree said in a 2000 interview with The Associated Press.

Isaac Hayes’ “Shaft” theme song—which included the line “You a bad mother—(Shut your mouth)”—helped insinuate the original movie into the pop-cult consciousness. The singer, who died in 2008, said the song was “like the ‘shot heard round the world.” His single won an Academy Award for best song in 1971 and two Grammys the following year.

After the film’s success, Roundtree returned in sequels “Shaft’s Big Score” in 1972 and “Shaft in Africa” in 1973. That same year, he played the savvy detective once again on the CBS television series “Shaft,” which lasted only seven episodes.

Roundtree reprised his role in the 2000 “Shaft” film, a revival that starred Samuel L. Jackson. He appeared as Jackson’s uncle in the big-budget film that was aimed at the general audience. Both appeared again in the same roles in the 2019 film starring Jessie T. Usher.

Jackson called Roundtree the “prototype” and the “best to ever do it” in a social media post.

“SHAFT, as we know it is & will always be his Creation,” he said of Roundtree. “His passing leaves a deep hole not only in my heart, but I’m sure a lotta y’all’s, too.”

Florida officials ask US Supreme Court to block rulings limiting anti-drag show law

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—The state of Florida is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to block lower court rulings that prohibit the enforcement of a new law targeting drag shows.

Florida officials filed an application with the nation's highest court on Friday asking that the prohibition against enforcing the anti-drag show law only be limited to the Orlando, Florida, restaurant which challenged its constitutionality.

The law should be enforced at other Florida businesses since to do otherwise will “erase from Florida’s statute books” a law meant to protect children, the application said.

Earlier this month, a panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court’s granting of a preliminary injunction stopping the law from being enforced. The district court found that the law likely restricted free speech and the injunction should be extended to all Floridians.

The appeals court panel ruled against a request from Florida officials to limit the injunction to the Hamburger Mary's restaurant, saying that Florida officials hadn’t shown that the lower court erred by prohibiting the universal enforcement of the law.

Hamburger Mary’s regularly hosts drag shows, including family-friendly performances on Sundays that children are invited to attend. The restaurant's owner said the law was overly broad, was written vaguely and violated First Amendment rights by chilling speech.

The new law championed by Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is running for the 2024 GOP presidential nomination, punished venues for allowing children into what it called “adult live performances.” Though it did not mention drag shows specifically, the sponsor of the legislation said it was aimed at those performances.

AP

Drag queen Angelica Sanchez performs in front of hundreds of people, including immigrants-rights and abortion-rights groups and members of the LGBTQ+ community from across the state, as they take part in a rally and march, May 1, 2023, in Orlando, Fla.

Oprah Winfrey selects Jesmyn Ward’s ‘Let Us Descend’ for her book club

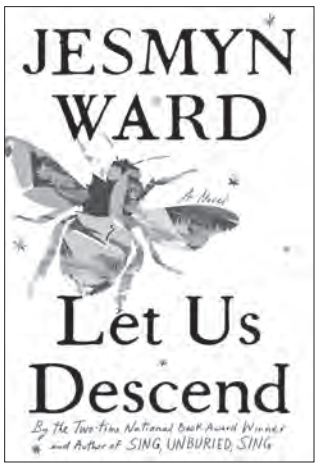
NEW YORK (AP)—Oprah Winfrey's new book club pick highlights an author she has long admired, Jesmyn Ward.

On Tuesday, Winfrey announced she had selected Ward's “Let Us Descend,” which comes out this week. “Let Us Descend” is a slave narrative set in the 19th century and follows a teenage girl's journey across the American South. Ward, 46, is among the most acclaimed writers of her generation. Her previous works include the novels “Salvage the Bones” and “Sing, Unburied, Sing,” both winners of the National Book Award.

In 2022, she became the youngest winner of the Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction.

“I have read all of Jesmyn Ward’s books and have been a fan of her writing for years,” Winfrey said in a statement. “‘Let Us Descend’ is a vital work for our culture and I’m so excited to have her newest offering as part of our Book Club.”

Ward has also written such nonfiction as “Men We Reaped” and “Navigate Your Stars.” In a statement Tuesday, she expressed her lifelong admiration for Winfrey and how she was “deeply moved by Ms. Winfrey’s ability to challenge herself creatively and her unabashed championing of literature and the written word.”



AP

This cover image released by Scribner shows "Let Us Descend" by Jesmyn Ward.

Secrets and infidelity loom over parents of young boy

DEAR ABBY: I am 26 and have been with my boyfriend, “Trey,” for eight years. We have an 18-month-old son. When I was six months pregnant, I went through Trey’s phone and saw he was cheating on me. I was humiliated and told my best friend because I couldn’t keep it in any longer. It hurt me deeply.

I chose to forgive Trey because we were starting a family and I felt I owed it to my baby to at least try. But I constantly think about the things I saw on his phone, and I don’t trust him. If I even think about him going out somewhere without me, I get terribly anxious.

I’m not going to lie. I wasn’t a saint throughout our relationship, but when I got pregnant, I was all about Trey and our family. I love him, but I can’t seem to be happy. We are polar opposites. I’m affectionate and love my family. He’s dry and doesn’t care for my family or his. I also feel we resent each other. Sometimes, I want to break up with him so I can find someone I can trust and have peace with, but then I feel guilty.

Our son is a daddy’s boy. He loves Trey and is always asking for Daddy when his father is out or at work. It would break my heart for my son not to see him as often as he does with us living together. My parents were never together, and I always said if I had a child, I’d make sure that child had their mom and dad together. But I’m not happy with my relationship. Please give me some advice.

FAILING IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR FAILING: Talk to Trey. Tell him how you feel and why. Has he continued to see other women? How does he feel about the status of your relationship? How important is it to him to be front and center in his son’s life?

The two of you are not married, thank heavens, so separating would not be complicated or costly from a legal perspective. Of course, he would have to support his child financially, and so would you. You both deserve to be happy, and don’t be surprised if you learn that Trey feels the same way about your relationship.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a daughter and two granddaughters, 16 and 24. I live with my daughter, her boyfriend and my younger granddaughter. My daughter and my oldest granddaughter got into a heated argument over the phone about something the boyfriend posted on social media. They are no longer speaking and have blocked each other’s phone calls.

I feel lost. We used to all three spend one Saturday a month together, go on vacations and have family dinners on holidays. How do I get over this?

MISSING IT IN MARYLAND

DEAR MISSING IT: A way to get past this would be to extend your social life beyond your immediate family. If you do, you will have more distraction and less time to brood about something that you cannot control. You can still see your older granddaughter separately if you wish, just not under the same circumstances as before until this blows over.

■ ■ ■

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren

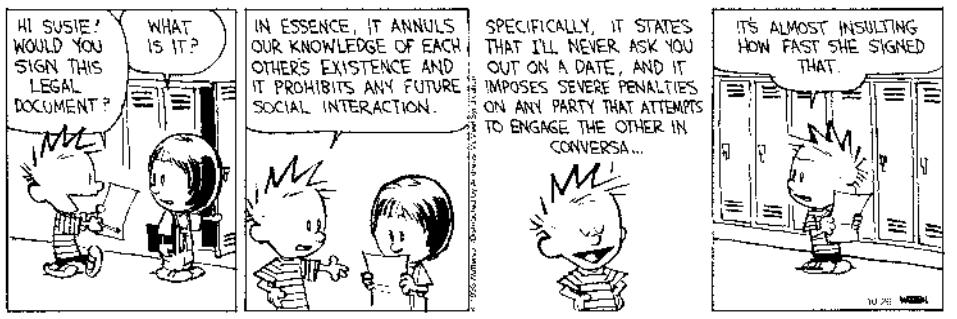
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

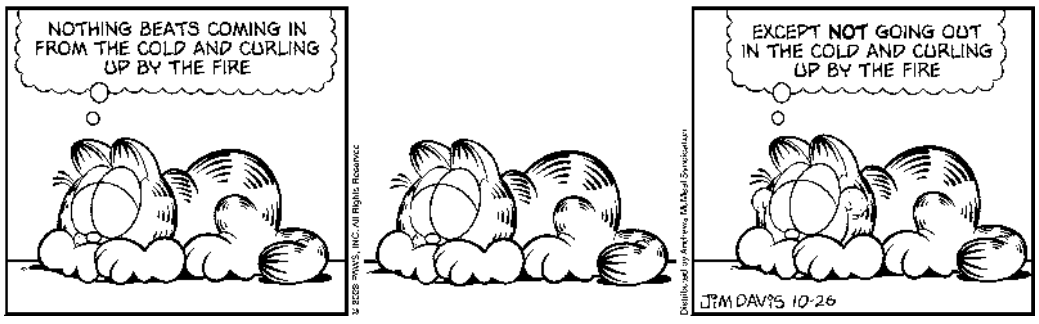
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HI SUSIE! WOULD YOU SIGN THIS LEGAL DOCUMENT?
WHAT IS IT?
IN ESSENCE, IT ANNULS OUR KNOWLEDGE OF EACH OTHER'S EXISTENCE AND IT PROHIBITS ANY FUTURE SOCIAL INTERACTION.
SPECIFICALLY, IT STATES THAT I'LL NEVER ASK YOU OUT ON A DATE, AND IT IMPOSES SEVERE PENALTIES ON ANY PARTY THAT ATTEMPTS TO ENGAGE THE OTHER IN CONVERSA...
IT'S ALMOST INSULTING HOW FAST SHE SIGNED THAT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


NOTHING BEATS COMING IN FROM THE COLD AND CURLING UP BY THE FIRE
EXCEPT NOT GOING OUT IN THE COLD AND CURLING UP BY THE FIRE
JIM DAVIS 10-26

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

SO, YOU KNOW HOW I SCARED KATY REALLY BAD?
YEAH?
SHE'S ACTING LIKE IT WAS NO BIG DEAL
THAT IS CHILLING.
RIGHT? IS WITNESS PROTECTION AN OPTION?
MARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

IT'S FUN WATCHING THE GAME OVER HERE WITH YOU GUYS. IT'S EVEN MORE FUN THAN WATCHING AT AN ACTUAL STADIUM.
EVERYTHING ABOUT IT IS BETTER.
EXCEPT YOUR BEER PRICES
REMEMBER, YOU OWE ME $40.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

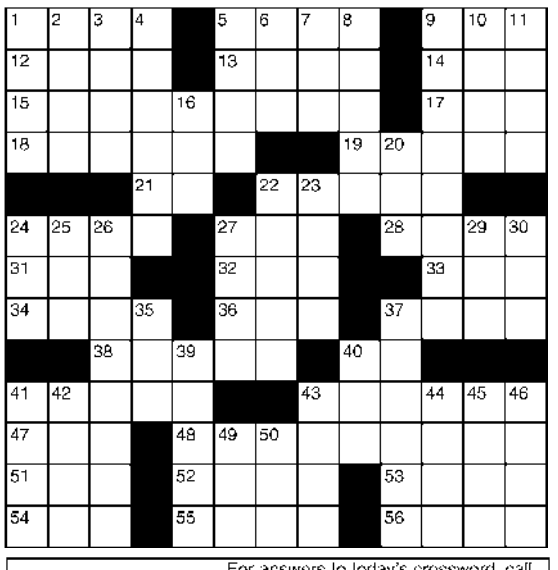
ACROSS
1 Male offspring
5 Obama predecessor
9 Prof's degree
12 "— a Kick Out of You"
13 Golden Rule word
14 Listener
15 Gathering of preschool children
17 Historic period
18 eBay user
19 Everglades wader
21 Hesitant sound
22 "Catch my drift?"
24 Conks on the head
27 Muppet eagle
28 Russian refusal
31 Tavern
32 "—-ching!"
33 Refusals
34 Gator's kin
36 "You've got mail" ISP
37 Dance move
38 PC shortcut
40 "Little Women" woman
41 Firm belief
43 Go sour
47 Prefix with meter
48 Forest-inspired color
51 Despondent
52 Satan's forte
53 Hotel chain
54 Directional ending
55 Bicycle part
56 Fireplace fuel

DOWN
1 Tries the wine
2 Leer at
3 "Hud" actress Patricia
4 Phonograph needle
5 Duelist Aaron
6 Popular card game
7 Poker champ Ungar
8 Had aspirations
9 Henrik Ibsen play
10 Tortoise's opponent
11 "Phooey!"
16 Jewel
20 Martini liquor
22 Google rival
23 Lawyer Clooney
24 Telly network
25 Rowing need
26 Teen's formal attire
27 Cicatrix
29 Fair hirer, in ads
30 Recipe abbr.
35 Rotating part
37 Sad state
39 Cod and May
40 Moonshine vessel
41 Hand (out)
42 Scent
43 Ancient Brit
44 Showroom sample
45 Fallon predecessor
46 Author Bagnold
49 "—had it!"
50 Long of "Empire"

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	S	S	I	■	B	O	K	■	E	S	S	O
F	I	L	A	■	E	R	A	■	M	A	I	D
C	R	O	W	B	A	R	S	■	I	N	R	E
S	I	G	N	E	T	■	I	I	A	R	D	E	R
■	■	■	Y	E	S	■	A	H	A	B	■	■
P	A	M	■	T	M	I	■	A	T	A	R	I
C	R	A	G	■	E	B	B	■	E	R	O	S
S	T	R	A	D	■	M	E	G	■	S	I	T
■	■	S	L	U	R	■	H	A	T	■	■	■
A	L	B	I	N	O	■	A	Z	A	L	E	A
M	E	A	L	■	D	I	V	E	B	A	R	S
M	A	H	E	■	I	D	E	■	L	I	I	I
O	R	S	O	■	N	O	S	■	A	R	C	S

Yesterday's answer 10-26



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seth MacFarlane, 50; Cary Elwes, 61; James Pickens Jr., 69; Pat Sajak, 77.

Happy Birthday: Establish what you want to achieve, then put a plan in place. Explore what's available in your community that sparks your imagination and offers the incentive you require to turn your dreams into a reality. Although hard work will pay off, doing something that brings you joy will be meaningful and encourage you to spend more time with those who share life's little pleasures with you. Make relationships a priority. Your numbers are 6, 13, 20, 24, 32, 35, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Emotions will surface quickly. Be aware of what's happening around you, but don't start a feud that can lead to isolation. Choose to be observant, weigh the pros and cons, and put together a long-term plan that pushes you toward keeping the peace. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Connect with forward-thinking people. The more you discuss the possibilities, the easier it is to make your dream come true. Assemble a team and put changes in motion, and the rest will fall into place. Love, along with self-improvement, is favored. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Discipline is necessary to finish what you start. Refuse to let outside influences throw you off course. Follow your heart and gravitate toward people who aren't manipulative or trying to disrupt your plans. Protect against injury and illness. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Refuse to let your emotions interfere with doing what's right and best for you. Get involved in groups, events that broaden your horizons and encourage opportunities and success. Don't sit idle for reasons you'll regret. Put ego aside. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Be observant and let others reveal their position, and you'll know exactly how to gain ground and support. If you push, someone will retaliate, but if you use charm and compliments, you will win the room. Wise decisions will lead to victory and domination. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Set the stage for victory. Put yourself out there and show confidence in all that you pursue. A vocal approach will draw attention and suggestions that will help you mold what you want to achieve into something more substantial than you imagine. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Direct your energy to suit your needs. Putting more effort into earning your living, getting along with your peers and using your money to support your needs will improve your lifestyle. Spend less time seeking approval and more time pleasing yourself. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be passionate about what you want, and unexpected opportunities will unfold. Advocate on your behalf, and you'll attract suggestions and potential partners that align with your beliefs and long-term goals. Lay down a solid foundation, and everything will fall into place. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Spend more time fixing up your surroundings and less time worrying about things that you have no control over. Budget for something that will make your life easier or clear a space to work on a project or adventure that excites you. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Stick to the script. Deviating from the facts will only make life difficult for you and those you are trying to convince to see things your way. Put emotions aside, speak from the heart and customize your plans to suit each scenario you encounter. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put more power behind your plans. Stop second-guessing and start moving in a direction that shows financial potential. Put a hold on unnecessary expenses, subscriptions and unhealthy indulgences, and focus on what you can do to improve your quality of life. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Restructure your finances to accommodate your desired lifestyle. Reclaim what makes you happy and discard what's weighing you down. Get serious about selling items you no longer need, and free up cash. Change begins with you. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, protective and original. You are unwavering and thorough.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			8	5	9	3	2	
2		3	7	6	4			
8							3	
	2	1				8		6
	6	7	3			2		5
5		9	2	1			6	
7	8		9				1	
	1	2		7	5	9	8	

Difficulty: ★★★ 10/26

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	4	2	3	9	1	6	5	7
5	1	3	7	4	6	8	2	9
9	6	7	5	2	8	4	3	1
7	5	9	6	1	3	2	4	8
2	8	4	9	7	5	1	6	3
1	3	6	4	8	2	7	9	5
3	9	8	1	6	4	5	7	2
4	7	1	2	5	9	3	8	6
6	2	5	8	3	7	9	1	4

Difficulty: ★★★ 10/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

JIMMY BUFFETT (1946-2023) **Solution: 13 letters**

N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	C	I	T	Y	S	M	B	O
E	R	A	D	I	O	E	S	C	A	P	I	S	M	E
W	I	L	C	R	E	S	O	R	T	S	R	P	I	L
O	H	L	A	R	J	A	M	E	S	U	I	Y	S	L
R	S	A	L	N	U	Ⓢ	Ⓝ	Ⓘ	Ⓕ	L	U	A	L	I
L	K	B	Y	H	D	I	S	R	O	S	S	W	A	V
E	R	E	P	B	O	S	S	T	L	O	X	D	N	A
A	E	S	S	N	I	O	H	E	E	S	M	A	D	T
N	B	A	O	P	C	A	T	A	I	U	T	O	N	I
S	A	B	P	O	N	O	R	E	R	G	D	R	O	R
H	N	I	R	N	H	E	H	O	O	K	R	B	R	A
A	D	O	A	V	O	L	C	A	N	O	T	A	E	G
R	N	V	T	O	U	R	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	R
A	A	U	T	H	O	R	A	M	A	B	A	L	A	A
S	A	I	N	T	S	J	A	N	E	B	B	O	C	M

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Alabama, Author, Band, Baseball, Berkshire, Broadway, Calypso, Cameron, Cobb, Corona, Cruise, Duets, Escapism, Fins, Hook, Hoot, Hotels, Island, James, Jane, Land Shark, Margaritaville, Margie, Mississippi, New Orleans, New York City, Pilot, Radio, Resorts, Saints, Sarah, Savannah, SiriusXM, Tour, Volcano, William

Yesterday's Answer: Satellite

The NEW **Treasuries 55 & 56** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-866-232-2067)

Diamondbacks stun Phillies to reach 1st World Series in 22 years

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— Corbin Carroll went 3 for 4 with two RBIs and two runs scored, and the Arizona Diamondbacks advanced to the World Series for the first time in 22 years Tuesday night by stunning the Philadelphia Phillies 4-2 in Game 7 of the NL Championship Series.

Arizona will play the Texas Rangers in an all-wild card World Series no one saw coming, with Game 1 set for Friday night at Globe Life Field.

In their only other trip to the Fall Classic, the Diamondbacks won a seven-game thriller against the New York Yankees in 2001.

The young Diamondbacks, who at 84-78 squeezed into the playoffs as the final NL wild card, completed their comeback from an 0-2 hole in the NLCS. They won Games 6 and 7 in Philadelphia, where the defending National League champions had been 12-2 over the past two postseasons — including 11-0 in NL playoff games.

"I've said it a million times, and I'll say it again: A connected team is a very dangerous team," Arizona manager Torey Lovullo said. "No matter what happened in those times of crisis, these guys stuck together."

Rookie starter Brandon Pfaadt struck out seven, and five relievers combined on five scoreless innings of one-hit ball for the surprising NL pennant winners.

"We did it! That's all I can say," said Carroll, the front-runner for NL Rookie of the Year. "Just believe in each other, believe in our guys. We know what we have in that clubhouse, and it's special. We've known it all year."

AP

Arizona Diamondbacks' Corbin Carroll scores on a hit by Arizona Diamondbacks' Christian Walker against the Philadelphia Phillies during the first inning in Game 7 of the baseball NL Championship Series in Philadelphia Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023.

Bryce Harper and the rest of the Phillies are forced to ponder this offseason how they let a second straight World Series trip slip away. Philadelphia returned home one win from another pennant but couldn't close it out, falling behind early in Game 6 and then losing the first Game 7 in the 141-year history of the franchise.

"It's very disappointing. It really is," manager Rob Thomson said. "I told the club if you asked me two days ago, two weeks ago, two months ago if we would be going home tonight, I would have said no. So that's how much belief I have in this club."

Kevin Ginkel, the fourth reliever for Arizona, showed his mettle with an absolutely gutsy performance in the seventh. After left-hander Andrew Saalfrank walked consecutive batters with one out, Ginkel entered and retired Trea Turner and Harper on fly-outs to center field.

Ginkel then struck out all three hitters in the eighth, and Paul Sewald pitched a perfect ninth for his sixth save this postseason.

With that, Arizona's bullpen slammed the door on Philadelphia's powerful lineup—and shushed Phillies fans who were left weeping on their own.

"That's a good club, and they really played well. You come into this building and beat us twice in this type of atmosphere, you're doing some things right," Thomson said. "They pitched well. They really did."

Again, the Diamondbacks struck first when Christian Walker grounded into a fielder's choice against Phillies starter Ranger Suárez in the first inning for a 1-0 lead. It may have seemed like a rather innocuous run. But Arizona was already 5-0 this postseason when it scored first and the run — much as the Diamondbacks did with a three-run second in Game 6—deflated a boisterous crowd that came prepped for a clinch.

Well, Phillies fans did see one.

Just not the pennant winner they paid to watch at Citizens Bank Park.

Pfaadt, who struck out nine in Game 3, allowed Alec Bohm's tying solo homer in the second that put a jolt in the crowd a needed one into the offense. Bohm pointed to his ring finger—symbolizing the World Series bling he wanted to win.

Bohm was at it again in the fourth when he walked and scored on Bryson Stott's double for a 2-1 lead.

But the free-swinging Phillies let prime opportunities go to waste. With runners on the corners, Nick Castellanos struck out—at that point, 0 for 21 with 11 strikeouts since a Game 1 homer—and, after a walk to Brandon Marsh, Johan Rojas struck out to end the fourth.

Thomson had few pinch-hitting options for Rojas, so he let the light-hitting center fielder take his cuts and promptly fall to 3 for 22 in the NLCS.

Pfaadt's strikeout let the Diamondbacks exhale.

Suárez struck out Ketel Marte for the third straight time in the fifth to make it two outs and a runner on second. Carroll—just 3 for 23 in the first six games of the series—grounded an RBI single up the middle for his third hit of Game 7. Suárez was replaced by Jeff Hoffman, and Carroll stole second before 23-year-old catcher Gabriel Moreno made it 3-2 with another single.

Pfaadt had done his part and the rookie righty who went just 3-9 this year kept Arizona—which swept the division champion Brewers and Dodgers to reach the NLCS—in position for one of its biggest wins in team history.

"He knows when he is the center of the moment," Lovullo said ahead of Game 7. "I think he's used to that."

Carroll tacked on a sacrifice fly in the seventh for a 4-2 lead, and the Diamondbacks never looked back.

"They started to run a little bit, started to put pressure on us. They started playing their game," Thomson said about the momentum shift when the series returned to Philadelphia.

By the time Philadelphia broke the in-case-of-emergency on ace Zack Wheeler in the seventh, it was too late. The Phillies team that bashed homers at a record pace against Miami and Atlanta never cashed in back home, finishing 1 for 10 with runners in scoring position in Game 7.

"We had some people on base tonight. We couldn't get the big hit," Thomson said.

Diamondbacks vs Rangers is a Fall Classic few saw coming

By RONALD BLUM
AP BASEBALL WRITER

Tell the truth: How many people picked Arizona and Texas to meet in the World Series?

A Rangers-Diamondbacks matchup had 1,750 to 1 odds when wagering opened last fall.

But in an era when 12 teams make the playoffs, sustained excellence over the six-month regular season has become a boarding pass, not the journey, leading to a Longshot Series that opens Friday night at Globe Life Field.

"Once you get into the big dance, anything can happen," Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo said before Tuesday night's 4-2 win at Philadelphia advanced Arizona to its first World Series since 2001. "Throw it all out the window. The teams that get in deserve to be in."

All the glamour teams are watching at home: the Los Angeles Dodgers and Atlanta Braves stumbled in the Division Series, defending champion Houston was ousted by Texas, and the New York Yankees didn't even make it to the postseason.

Instead, Major League Baseball has its third all-wild card meeting. a Grand Canyon vs. Lone Star finale of second-place teams played in air-conditioned ballparks under retractable roofs—potentially the first all-indoor Fall Classic.

Both prior all-wild card matchups went seven games. The Los Angeles Angels beat the San Francisco Giants in 2002 and Bruce Bochy's Giants defeated the Kansas City Royals in 2014 for their third title in five years.

Texas and the Diamondbacks are both two years removed from last-place finishes and 100-loss seasons.

"Sometimes, one of the last hurdles to get over is that winning feeling, attitude, when you've been losing for a few seasons," Bochy said.

Bochy, 68 and in his 26th year as a big league manager, joined the Rangers last October. He is going for his fourth title, which would tie with Walter Alston and Joe Torre for fourth most behind Joe McCarthy and Casey Stengel (seven each) and Connie Mack (five). All prior managers with three or more are in the Hall of Fame.

"I don't think about me. I'm riding their backs, trust me," Bochy said. "It's unreal that I'm here, to be honest. Sitting at the house for three years, and think here I am going to a World Series. Yeah, that's special. But it's more about them and trying to find a way to get a ring for those guys."

Texas started play as the expansion Washington Senators from 1961-71 and has played 10,028 games without a title (9,964 regular season games, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, plus 64 in the postseason). That's the second-longest drought behind Cleveland, which last won in 1948.

After losing in the World Series in 2010 and '11, the Rangers are among six teams without a title, joined by Colorado, Seattle Pilots/Milwaukee Brewers, San Diego, Seattle Mariners and Tampa Bay.

Arizona's only title came on Luis Gonzalez's ninth-inning single off the Yankees' Mariano Rivera in 2001's Game 7.

Texas headed into the playoffs with the sixth-highest payroll at $228 million. Arizona was 20th at $127 million.

Both teams rallied and punched their World Series tickets on the road. In fact, since the LCS expanded to a best-of-seven format in 1985, this is first time road teams won Games 6 and 7 in both leagues

Without Jacob deGrom following a season-ending elbow injury, the Rangers acquired Max Scherzer and Jordan Montgomery to join a rotation that included Nathan Eovaldi and Andrew Heaney. Adolis García has seven homers and 20 RBIs in the playoffs, leading an offense also powered by 2020 World Series MVP Corey Seager, Mitch Garver and Josh Jung.

Arizona's rotation is led by Zac Gallen, Merrill Kelly and Brandon Pfaadt, and its offense sparked by Gabriel Moreno, Ketel Marte and rookie Corbin Carroll. Torey Lovullo, 58, is in his seventh season as Diamondbacks manager and in the playoffs for the first time since his 2017 team was swept by the Dodgers in the Division Series.

Texas is 8-0 on the road in the postseason but has home-field advantage because it won 90 games to Arizona's 84—which could be the second-fewest for a World Series champion in a non-shortened season behind the St. Louis Cardinals' 83 in 2006. The Diamondbacks split two games at Texas in May and swept a pair at home in August, including an 11-inning win on consecutive 11th-inning doubles by Perdomo and Tommy Pham off Will Smith. The Rangers hold a 28-25 in regular-season matchups.

There are some common ties. Lovullo's staff includes bench coach Jeff Bannister, the Rangers' manager from 2015-18.

Scherzer was drafted by the Diamondbacks and spent his first two seasons with Arizona in 2008-09 before he was dealt to Detroit.

Nuggets celebrate 1st title with banner, rings, win over Lakers

AP
Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, left, looks to pass the ball as Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023, in Denver.

DENVER (AP)—The bling and the banner were nice. What the Denver Nuggets really relished, though, was opening defense of the franchise's first NBA title with a 119-107 win over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

"We can't think about last year too much," Jamal Murray said after the Nuggets followed the raising of their championship banner by dropping the hammer on the Lakers in the NBA's season opener, which featured Nikola Jokic's triple-double and LeBron James taking a few more breathers than normal.

Jokic said the Nuggets fed off the emotion from the pregame ceremony to jump out to an early 18-point lead, which held up even after the Lakers got within three points in the fourth quarter.

"I think we controlled the game the whole time," said Jokic, who had 29 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists.

Murray added 21 points, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 20, Aaron Gordon had 15 and Michael Porter Jr. had 12.

All of LA's starters also scored in double figures, led by James' 21 points in 29 minutes — his playing time is being monitored at the start of his 21st season.

"It helps," Murray said with a smile.

James ended up playing about five fewer minutes than he's used to.

"I mean, I always want to be on the floor," James said, "especially when you got an opportunity to win a game or feel like you can make an impact. But I guess there's a system in place and I'll follow it."

James, the league's oldest player at age 38, stressed, "I'm not surprised or upset" about the Lakers monitoring his minutes as the season gets going.

Taurean Prince scored 18 points his his debut for the Lakers, his fifth team in nine seasons. Anthony Davis had 17 points, Austin Reaves 14 and D'Angelo Russell 11.

The Lakers trailed by 18 early but trimmed that deficit to 63-54 at halftime and used a 13-0 run spanning the third and fourth quarters to pull within 87-84 before Aaron Gordon stopped the run with a 3-pointer.

The Lakers never got closer.

After James' basket got Los Angeles within 103-96 with just over five minutes remaining, the Nuggets called timeout and came out of it with a 10-3 run featuring 3-pointers by Murray and Porter to put the Lakers away.

"We were trending in the right direction for a while there," Lakers coach Darvin Ham said. "Each quarter we had given up less and less and then they just kind of blew the game open."

The Nuggets received their gold, diamond-encrusted championship rings—featuring a mini championship banner that rolls out from one side—in a pregame ceremony. Murray, wearing a microphone, told teammate Gordon, "I might play the first quarter with it!"

Nuggets coach Michael Malone relished one last hurrah over last season's breakthrough before turning his attention entirely to this season.

"Jason of Beverly Hills, I want to thank them for some really nice hardware. And then at that point, I was like, 'Let's get the game going,'" Malone said of watching the banner rise to rafters at sold-out, shaking Ball Arena.

"And I was also thinking about my father, just wish he was here."

Brendan Malone, the longtime coach and driving force behind the Detroit Pistons "Bad Boys" defenses in the late 1980s and early '90s, died earlier this month at age 81.

"So, a lot of emotions tonight but all really positive," Malone said, "and to end it with a win is a great way to start the season off."

The Nuggets went 16-4 in the playoffs—including a sweep of the Lakers in the Western Conference Finals—and finished things off by closing out Miami in five games to start a summer of celebrations from Denver's delirious downtown to Jokic's hometown of Sombor, Serbia.

Jokic may have followed up back-to-back MVP seasons by leading the Nuggets to their first NBA title, but TNT left him off its graphic promoting its opening-night doubleheader featuring the Lakers-Nuggets and Suns-Warriors games.

The graphic featured LeBron James, Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant and Jayson Tatum—the last an odd choice given that the Celtics don't play until Wednesday night. The slight upset Charles Barkley, the co-host of TNT's "Inside the NBA," who apologized to the Nuggets and their fans for the omission.

That said, Barkley opined in a pregame interview that he thinks the Nuggets will have a tough time repeating.

"I think they're in the mix. I'm a big Bruce Brown fan," Barkley said of the starting small forward who signed a two-year, $45 million contract with the Indiana Pacers following Denver's title run. "They gotta replace him and the young guys gotta come on, and they're going to have to adjust to being the hunted."

SUNS 108, WARRIORS 104

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Devin Booker scored a go-ahead layup with 4:51 remaining followed by a 3-pointer on the way to 32 points, and the Phoenix Suns beat the Golden State Warriors 108-104 on Tuesday night in a back-and-forth season opener for the Pacific Division powerhouses.

Stephen Curry scored 27 points to former shooting partner Kevin Durant's 18 on a night the Warriors welcomed KD back for his first game in front of Bay Area fans since leaving after the 2019 NBA Finals.

Curry scored seven straight points early in the third to pull the Warriors within 64-61 at the 8:21 mark and Phoenix called timeout. Golden State opened the third on a 27-5 burst while the Suns went 2 for 14.

Jusuf Nurkic had 14 points and 14 rebounds with a driving layup in the closing seconds in his Suns debut. Josh Okogie knocked down a baseline 3 with 1:09 to play and Eric Gordon connected from long range with 45 seconds left before Curry hit from deep.

Booker started and also had eight assists and six rebounds after coming into the game questionable with soreness in his left big toe. He made his first three shots and scored eight of the Suns' initial 13 points.

Durant was greeted with warm applause from the fans in their first time seeing him since he led the Warriors to a pair of championships with two NBA Finals MVP awards and three straight Finals berths from 2017-19.

The Warriors played video highlights and welcomed him back on the big screen during pregame introductions. Durant patted his heart and raised his arm in the air to acknowledge the love then shot 7 for 22 with 10 rebounds.

Durant played at Chase Center in February 2021 with Brooklyn when no fans were allowed in the building because of the pandemic then was injured this past March when the Suns last visited.

Chris Paul contributed 14 points, nine assists and six rebounds in his Warriors debut facing his most recent team. Golden State acquired him on draft night from the Wizards—he never played in Washington—for Jordan Poole.

Paul missed his first six shots and all six of his 3-point tries.

Antetokounmpo believes signing extension now should help Bucks avoid distractions

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Giannis Antetokounmpo wanted to make sure his contract status didn't distract the Milwaukee Bucks as they made a run at another championship.

That's one reason the two-time MVP changed his mind and signed a three-year, $186 million extension rather than waiting until next summer to make his future plans known.

Antetokounmpo, 28, explained his decision Tuesday, one day after announcing on social media he had agreed to the extension.

"I don't need the media talks to be about my contract and if I'm going to stay, if I'm going to leave," Antetokounmpo said. "Because I knew in my heart that I wanted to stay. I don't want people, when we lose a game to come back and say, 'Oh, Giannis is being irritated, he doesn't like what's going on, this, that, he's going to leave, blah, blah, blah.' No. The conversation right now is going to be straight basketball."

Antetokounmpo noted he made a similar decision back in 2020, when he signed his supermax extension about a week before the start of the season rather than pursuing free agency the following summer. The Bucks went on to win their first title in a half-century.

"It was very helpful," Antetokounmpo recalled. "I didn't have to think about it. And I don't think it's just helpful to me, it's helpful to the team too. They don't want to hear about, 'Oh, Giannis is leaving. Giannis is staying' the whole year."

Antetokounmpo said he feels a responsibility to put the organization at ease.

"I want to be here, right?" Antetokounmpo said. "There's no secret in that. Everybody knows that. It feels good. Like I stress a lot of people out. And I don't want to be the reason that a lot of people are stressed out because my life is really stressed out and I know how I feel. So, if I can make it easier on the organization and my teammates and put us in a better position to win a championship, heck yeah. Let's do it."

Antetokounmpo's announcement on the eve of the NBA's season opener capped an eventful few months for the Bucks and their superstar.

The Bucks posted the NBA's best regular-season record last year but lost to the Miami Heat in the first round of the playoffs, a result that led to the firing of coach Mike Budenholzer and the hiring of Adrian Griffin. Antetokounmpo then said this summer he wouldn't sign an extension this year and wanted to see how committed the Bucks were about competing for another championship.

Milwaukee then acquired seven-time all-NBA guard Damian Lillard—like Antetokounmpo a member of the NBA's 75th anniversary team—from the Portland Trail Blazers. Even after that move, Antetokounmpo said he would wait until the summer before signing an extension because it didn't make financial sense to do it now.

"He's the best player in the world," Griffin said Tuesday. "Having him commit for a few more years is just amazing."

Antetokounmpo is now under contract for at least four more years—and a fifth if he's so inclined. He will earn about $94.4 million over the next two seasons, then about $120 million more from 2025-27.

If he exercises his option for the final year, he could make roughly $66 million in 2027-28.

Had he waited until next year to sign the extension, it could have been a four-year agreement at a figure exceeding $250 million. Antetokounmpo signed the extension and then gave the pen to his mother, who owns the pens from all the contracts he has signed since joining the NBA.

"I hope I can add more pens to her collection moving forward," Antetokounmpo said.

Antetokounmpo said he realized he could benefit financially by signing now and then again in 2026 when he's eligible for another extension. Antetokounmpo said he also followed some advice from his older brother, Bucks teammate Thanasis Antetokounmpo.

"Obviously I trust Thanasis to death," Antetokounmpo said. "Me and Thanasis, we haven't separated ourselves since I was born. We were always there. He always looks out for me and has my back in so many ways. I have his back in so many ways. It's a judgment that I trust blindly."

Undefeated Easy Riders, Checkpoint advance to semis

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Undefeated Easy Riders and Checkpoint advanced to the semis of the open division in the Inaugural SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2023 after nail-biting games Tuesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Easy Riders held on to win in a low scoring 56-49 game against Vik Team in the first elimination game of the night.

Man-to-man defensive pressure led to inaccurate shots that resulted in many shoots and misses from both sides. Vik Team tried to topple Easy Riders from their unblemished pedestal and came close with five minutes left in the game, 49-41.

Interceptions were made left and right by speedy Ren Ren Gaviola of the Easy Riders and quickly dashed the hopes of a late-game comeback by Vik Team. Easy Riders made more accurate shots at the basket, while consecutive missed jump shots by Vik Team's Web Gontar and Ivan De Vero may have caused them the game.

If they had made those shots, the game would have been tied as Easy Riders went for about a couple minutes of a scoreless spell.

It was a little too late for Vik Team to close the widening gap with just about a minute left in the game, however, as Easy Riders' Frank Ferrer added a wide-open layup, followed by Andrew Ashburn's 3-pointer and layup.

Ashburn put up 14 points, while Craig Padayao scored 11. Vik Team's Ivan De Vero made 10 points, while Reymark Castro contributed 8.

In the last game of the night, Checkpoint had to fight tooth and nail against Winners Group, 71-58, as until the third quarter, Winners Group led.

At the end of the first quarter, Winners Group led, 27-24, then by just 2 points at the end of the second, 50-48. It was still anybody's game as Winners Groups' duo of John Mejarito and Jeter Medina lit up the scoreboard with their back-to-back baskets.

Checkpoint bounced back in the end with fast-break plays and a better strategy than earlier in the game. They gave the ball to Choini Dela Cruz, Jeff Castro, Tony Kim, and Juan Camacho, who scored the crucial points needed to escape the almost aptly named Winners Group.

Dela Cruz led Checkpoint with 18 markers, while Castro put up 12, and Kim had 11. Mejarito and Medina mirrored each other with 16 points, while Ryan Llave scored 14.

LEIGH GASES

Easy Riders is still undefeated as they eliminated Vik Team during the quarterfinals of the Inaugural SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2023 at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Checkpoint players pose for a group photo during one of their games in the Inaugural SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2023 at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court

First Game

Easy Riders 56 – Ashburn 14, Padayao 11, Velasco 8, Diwa 6, Reign 5, Ferrer 3, Camacho 3, Directo 3, Gaviola 3.

Vik Team 49 – I. De Vero 10, Castro 8, Gontar 7, De Dios 6, Apasan 5, Nicodamus 4, S. De Vero 4, Ibe 2, Cruz 2, Reyes 1.

Scoring by periods: 18-14, 30-23, 47-39, 56-49.

Second Game

Checkpoint 71 – Dela Cruz 18, Castro 12, Kim 11, Camacho 8, Castillo 4, Flores 2, Yanto 2.

Winners Group 58 – Mejarito 16, Medina 16, Llave 14, Danipog 10, Flores 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-27, 50-48, 61-69, 71-58.

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cario, Daniel Macario, Jordan Pangilinan, James Du, Lance Gallardo, Nicomedez Antonio, Janelle Pangilinan, Patricia Surima, and Jen Cardinio.

Thackham conducted a similar training camp last June and said in an interview last week that the players' performance now compared to last time is much better. "The quality is better. They've obviously been working and they're enthusiastic. I mean, look, we have 20 turned up at 6am every morning before school, and then in the afternoon."

When he leaves, Thackham said, "I want to make sure with the coaches that there's a plan in place for the next six months—like what are they going to work on."

Janelle Pangilinan, who is a coach/athlete, said that they at the Northern Marianas Badminton Association communicate with Thackman every month or so just to see how the development of the junior/senior players are going.

She said, "Having Robbie is a great opportunity not only for especially for juniors so they can start off right, but also for seniors to correct themselves."

Along with player development, Pangilinan said Thackham also assists the coaches—her, Ezekiel Macario, and Camacho. "We are Level I coaches. And so with his coaching program, he always asks us for an update on how we're doing and how are the juniors improving."

She added that having Thackham definitely helps improve their game and their coaching. "I could teach a kid but only up to my knowledge, but Robbie could even see every detail. He can look from head to toe, how your grip is, how your footwork is, how your shots are being made, and what's the reason. Robbie, knows what to do and what to say and how to fix us."

KHS

From page 36

tin Camacho, and Jeremiah Suel III. KHS held onto that lead until the third inning when MHS' Austin Pelisamen scored for a 1-3 game.

KHS then added another run to make it 4-1 heading into the fourth, when MHS' Franky Hocog scored to make it 4-2. The Ayuyus still had more firepower in them as they scored two in the bottom of the fourth, but MHS came back in the fifth and scored three from runs by Pelisamen, Silvestre Ilo, and Tony Palacios for a 6-5 KHS lead.

KHS added one more run to make it 7-5, but then MHS scored six more runs from four consecutive RBI walks and two RBI singles, to overtake the lead, 11-7.

At the bottom of the last inning with two outs, KHS' Joell Borja, Chris Pangelinan, Andrew Igitol, and Terrel Rabago scored four runs to tie it up, 11-11, with the winning run on the plate in the form of Aguon—who delivered.

In other results, KHS JV trounced Mount Carmel School, 11-4; KHS varsity pummeled MHS JV, 31-0; KHS JV won over Saipan Southern High School varsity, 10-4; and MHS varsity beat MCS, 8-1.

Saipan Baseball League board member and league coordinator Kyle Hocog said in an interview after the games that SBL took on the league so as to give back to the youth. "This is about the bat and ball game. When we have these kids fielding over here, we hope it can transition into the baseball diamond. We're rolling out high school boys, then we got middle school boys and girls, and elementary coed. I think it's just going to be a great opportunity just to be out here and hopefully revive the game and it starts with these age groups."

As for the first day of games, Hocog said, "The first day was great. The first game was a walk-off and MCS came out—they're a private school so it was nice to have them. We had three games which were pretty good and had good weather… It was a great turnout."

He added, "I think you know, with it being the very first day, we have a lot more work to do as we work out the kinks. I like to think of this as a leap pad of what we hope for the next season which is the underarm fast pitch softball. So, to get things going, we wanted to do the slow-pitch first."

MPP

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gas, Mark Gibson, Rep. Edwin Propst, (D-Saipan) and MB Tech Micronesia.

MPP's team included Buyum, Jasseline Seman, Shelli Neal, Joannie Reyes, Frances "Shine" Santos, Vina Seelam, Solly Takai, Molly Dennert, Amanda Santos, Carmilynn Ogumoro, Mardee Hermosilla, Maggy Moussalem, Max Garcia, Selmalyn Lopez Taitano, Shirley Ann Taitano Deleon Guerrero, and Nina Manglona.

For Northern Marianas National Paddling Sports Federation president Justin Andrew, he said the overall performance of all clubs under NMNPSF—Saipan Paddling Club, Marianas Outrigger Club, and MPP—was "outstanding".

With that, Andrew thanked their member clubs, their coaches, and athletes "for an amazing showing and performance. The NMI sent close to 70 outrigger paddlers to Guam and I commend their respective clubs for their support of our regional outrigger event."

The competition itself was well organized and ran smoothly, despite challenges like the low tide, said Andrew. "Tide was a concern—because of low tide in the morning, the sprint races started late around 10:30am…. and with the number of teams and race heats to be done, we were worried we may race until dark… but the race director and his team managed to pull it off before sunset."

He said the highlights of the competition was that, "seeing the level of competition that brought out the best in all paddlers was impressive—our NMI paddlers put on an incredible performance that will be a record for a long time."

"On behalf of the NMNPSF and its member clubs, I would like to thank the Guam Kayak and Canoe Federation and Haggan Outrigger Canoe Club for putting on a great outrigger paddling race event—special thank you to my good paddling buddy coach Ron Ruiz, the race director, and his amazing team for a job well done," he said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Pacific Paddlers pose for a group photo before flying out to Guam for the 23rd Annual Micronesia Cup Canoe Race last weekend.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Marianas Pacific Paddlers coach Eddie Johnson and paddlers Jasseline Seman, Nina Manglona, Mardee Hermosilla, Vina Seelam, Maggy Moussalem, and Shelli Neal pose for a photo during the awards ceremony of the 23rd Annual Micronesia Cup Canoe Race in Guam last weekend.

Diamondbacks stun Phillies to reach 1st World Series in 22 years.

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Undefeated Easy Riders, Checkpoint advance to semis.

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20 take part in Badminton Oceania training camp

LEIGH GASES

Elite juniors and senior badminton players pose for a photo during their 10-day badminton clinic with Robbie Thackham, Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania, far right, at the TSL Complex last Thursday.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Robbie Thackham, Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania, concluded a 10-day badminton training camp yesterday for NMI junior and senior badminton players held at the TSL Complex in Gualo Rai.

Thackham started the camp last Monday, with training sessions in the early morning for junior players, afternoon sessions for elite junior players, and evening training sessions for senior players.

The 6am-7am training was more on badminton footwork, cardio, and conditioning. The afternoon/evening sessions were more on technical skills.

Elite junior national participants—who are training toward hopefully competing in the World Junior Championships in China next year—were Evan Seguritan, Marlon Bautista, Sernantie Jimenez, Dave Odicta, Sean Dizon, Ean Camacho, Kyle Salcedo, Paolo Quidato, Brandon Manacop, Lina Tsukagoshi, Shaina Malonzo, and Charmaine Bautista.

The senior national player participants were Brian Lubao, Daniell Pablo, Andreau Galvez, Nathan Camacho, Ezekiel Ma-

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KHS dominates inaugural boys HS softball

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The Inaugural SBL-PSS Interscholastic Boys High School Slow Pitch Softball League 2023-2024 is underway with Kagman High School Ayuyu sluggers dominating Dandan Softball Field last Saturday.

KHS stacked lineup of mostly CNMI U17 National Baseball players thought they would have it easy in the first game of the season, but Marianas High School Dolphins put up a fight.

Noah Aguon scored the go-ahead, walk-off winning run in the bottom of the last inning for the Ayuyus for a close 12-11 win.

The Ayuyus struck first with three runs in the first inning scored by the first three in the lineup—Jon Diaz, Jus-

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SBL

Kagman High School varsity softball team, left, and Marianas High School varsity softball team pose for a group photo with Saipan Baseball League board members and PSS Athletics Program director Nock Gross (with microphone) before the start of the inaugural SBL-PSS Interscholastic Boys High School Slow Pitch Softball League 2023-2024 at the Dandan Softball Field last Saturday.

MPP wins 2 bronze medals

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Marianas Pacific Paddlers' all women's va'a team bagged two bronze medals in the 23rd Annual Micronesia Cup Canoe Race off the waters of Matapang Beach, Guam last weekend.

»16 total medals for CNMI in Micro Cup

With competitors from all over Micronesia, the women showed what women power is all about with the MPP Blue crew bringing home bronze medals in the open women 1,000m and the long distance 10-mile race.

In the 1,000m race, they paddled through low tides and clocked in at 6:45.19, and in the long-distance race, fought through stormy weather to clock in at 1:55:11.99.

MPP's two bronze medals brought to a total 16 medals for the CNMI—seven gold, four silver, and five bronze.

In place of MPP president Maria Ornes, Arielle Buyum said, "The 2023 Micro Cup was an incredible event. Marianas Pacific Paddlers could not be more proud of the performance of our women athletes. They stayed focused throughout the event not letting low tides during the sprints and stormy weather during the long distance deter them from their goals."

She added, "Every single MPP paddler contributed their highest athletic performance throughout the entire event."

Buyum said, "The women of MPP would like to thank our coach, Eddie Johnson, for his wisdom and guidance. We also extend a special thank you to our aid tent team and all the people who came out to cheer us on in Guam. Finally, a heartfelt thank you to our family, friends and loved ones who gave us the support and encouragement over the past several months of training. Our outcome would not have been possible without them."

MPP thanks their generous donors, namely SafeHouse, EFC Services Corporation, Micronesian Environmental Services, Bridge Capital, Joeten Motors, Robert Torres Attorney at Law, TurnKey Solutions, Saipan Select, Micronesian Brokers, Canaan Realty, Stitched, Saipan Ve-

See MPP on Page 35

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Marianas Pacific Paddlers coach Eddie Johnson, Guam race director Ron Ruiz, and paddlers Selmalyn Lopez Taitano, Jasseline Seman, Joannie Reyes, Vina Seelam, Shelli Neal, and Maggy Moussalem pose for a photo during the awards ceremony of the 23rd Annual Micronesia Cup Canoe Race in Guam last weekend.